This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

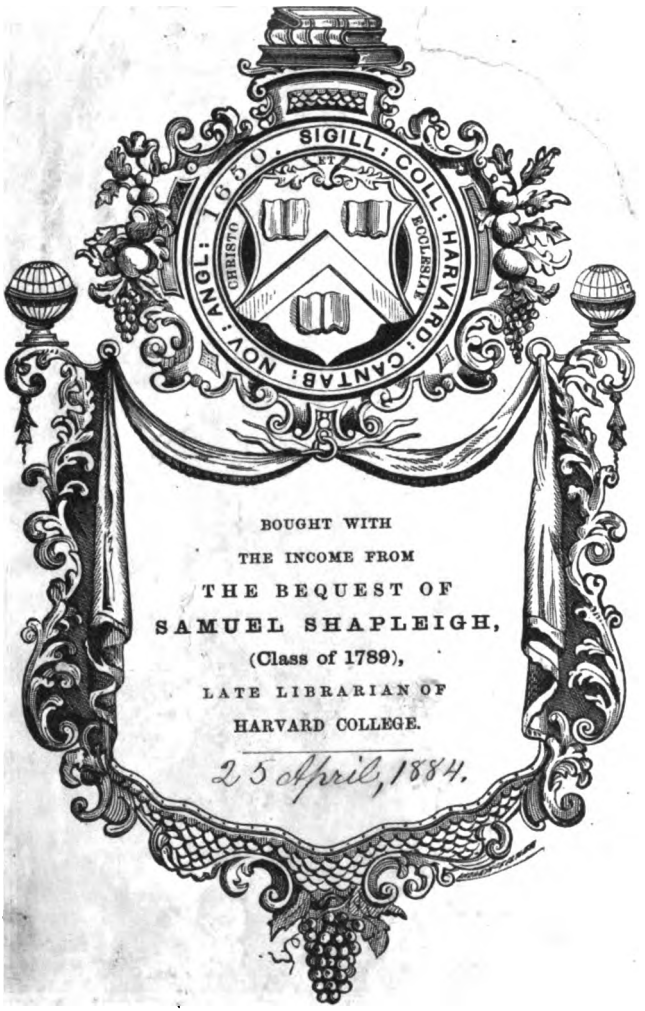
About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

WIDENER LIBRARY
HX JUKN D

Digitized by Google

Thr 9922.12 24-110-29



BOUGHT WITH
THE INCOME FROM
THE BEQUEST OF
SAMUEL SHAPLEIGH,
(Class of 1789),
LATE LIBRARIAN OF
HARVARD COLLEGE.

25 April, 1884.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

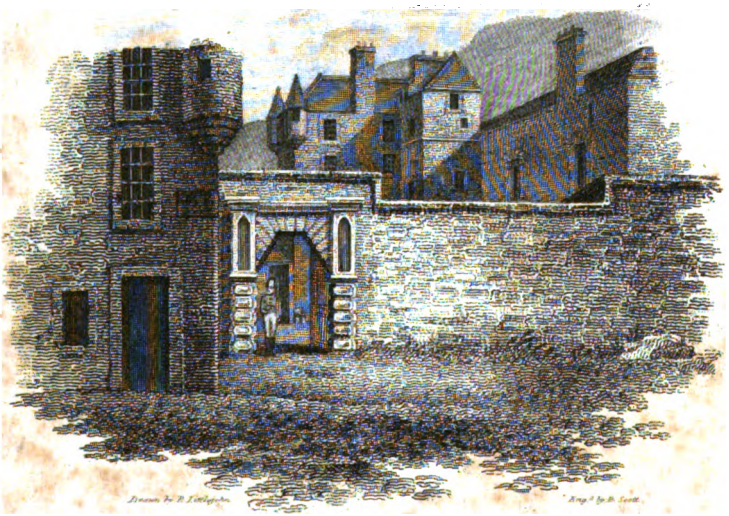
Digitized by Google

Drawn by S. Lilligston — Published for Will. Morrison at the Ark streets — Engd by a Scott

A View under the Bridge of [illegible]

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH



GOWRIE HOUSE.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA

OF THE

CITY OF PERTH:

CONTAINING,

A GUIDE TO PERTH;

HISTORICAL MEMORANDA RESPECTING PERTH;

CHARTERS RELATING TO THE PRIVILEGES OF PERTH;

LIST OF THE MINISTERS, AND RECTORS OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND ACADEMY;

LIST OF THE SUBSCRIBERS FOR BUILDING THE BRIDGE, AND THE PUBLIC SEMINARIES;

AND

THE REV. ALEXANDER DUFF'S

(LATE OF TIBBERMUIR)

TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT,

IN THE TOWN OF PERTH,

OF THE

DEATH

OF

JOHN, EARL OF GOWRIE,

AND HIS BROTHER,

MR ALEXANDER RUTHVEN,

IN 1600.

COMPILED FROM THE BEST SOURCES OF INFORMATION; CHIEFLY FROM MR CANT'S NOTES TO THE MUSE'S THRENODIE OF ADAMSON.

Perth:

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM MORISON.

AND TO BE HAD OF MESS. MANNERS & MILLER, EDINBURGH; AND MR THOMAS OSTELL, AVE-MARIA LANE, LONDON.

1806.

Digitized by Google

Pr 9922.12
9467.32
APR 25 1884
Shapleigh fund.

ENTERED IN STATIONERS HALL.

J. Pillans & Sons, Printers, Edinburgh.

24-110
C.S.

Digitized by Google

ADVERTISEMENT.

In 1770, a new edition of Mr Adamson's Poem of *The Muse's Threnodie* was published by Mr James Cant; who illustrated the frequent passages of local reference, with so many notes, that the book popularly acquired the title of "The History of Perth." It has now become exceedingly scarce; and being the only account of this important place in print, is consequently in considerable demand. For several years the advertiser has purposed to reprint it; but he has been hitherto with-held by the expectation that the Literary and Antiquarian Society woul dgive to the world, a work, more worthy the title of an *History* of their native place. He has participated with the Public in the disappointment of this hope; and therefore offers to their patronage, the following collection of notices, chiefly from Mr Cant's book; which, barren and ill digested as they are, must, for the present, occupy the situation of a more worthy volume.

It may appear singular, that an account of Perth should have been printed elsewhere. The incessant occupation of the press, here, by the Encyclopædia Perthensis, is the cause. The Advertiser will have it in his power to furnish complete setts of that elaborate Work, which has been so many years in progress, in the beginning of 1806.

Perth, *Dec.* 1805.

CON-

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

CONTENTS.

Pag.

SECT. I.—A GUIDE THROUGH THE CITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD, - - - 1

Strathearn, - - - ib.

Abernethy, - - - 2

Pitkeathly, - - - 3

Moncrieff-hill, - - - - 4

South Inch, - - - 6

Citadel—Cross, - - - 8

Skinnergate, - - - 9

Caſtle—Chapel of St Laurence—Miln Street—Castle Gable—Curfew Row, - 12

Blackfriars' Wynd and Monastery—Foundery Lane—Methven Street—Cavalry Barracks, - - - 13

Rose Terrace—Seminaries—Crescent—Athole Place—North Inch, - 14

Balhousie—Charlotte Street—Bridge, 16

Bridgend—George Street—Bank—Glover's Hall—Prison, - - - 13

New Street, - - - 20

Watergate—House of the Green—John's Street—St John's Church, - 21

Academy,

Digitized by Google

Page.

Academy, - - - 22
Butcher-Market, - - 23
Session-House—Public Library, - 24
Literary and Antiquarian Society—Grammar School—St Ann's Chapel, - 25
Fountain Close—Gowrie House, - 26
Monk's Tower—Spey-gate—Spey Tower, 28
Greyfriars' Convent and Burying-Ground—Quays, - - - 29
Prince's Street—Episcopal Chapel—South Street—Chapel of Loretto—Rood Chapel—Carthusian Monastery, - - 31
Hospital, - - - 32
Chapels of St Leonard and Mary Magdalen, - - - - 33
Chapels of St Katherine and St Paul—Leonard Street—Powmarium—New Row—Earl's Dykes—Methven Street—St Paul's Church, - - - - 34
Dovecotland—Town's Muir—Paul Street—Flour-Mills—Town's Aqueduct,—Milnwynd, - - - 35
Guildhall—Parliament House—Echo, 36
Duplin, - - - 37
Tibbermuir—Methven, - - - 38
Methven Castle—Lednoch, - 39
Low's Wark—Huntingtower, - 41
Tulloch—Kinnoul-Hill, - - 42
Castle of Kinnoul, - - - 43
Scone, - - - - 44
Bertha, - - - - 46
Luncarty, - - - 48
Stanley, - - - 49
Thistle Brig, - - 53
Lin of Campsie, - - - 54

SECT.

Digitized by Google

Pag.

SECT. II.—HISTORICAL MEMORANDA, - 55
Conjectures respecting the name, - ib.
Origin of Perth, - - - 56
Traditional Account of the Origin of Perth, 58
Refutation of Boece's assertion, that ancient Perth stood to the northward of the present situation, - - - 61
Occurrences at Perth, from 1160, downwards, with lists of magistrates, &c. 70

SECT. III.—THE TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT, IN THE TOWN OF PERTH, CONCERNING THE DEATH OF JOHN, EARL OF GOWRIE, AND HIS BROTHER, MR ALEXANDER RUTHVEN, IN THE YEAR 1600, BY THE LATE REV. ALEXANDER DUFF OF TIBBERMUIR, - - - 231

SECT. IV.—CHARTERS RELATING TO THE PRIVILEGES OF PERTH, - - - 259
No. 1. The Charter of Confirmation of the whole Rights and Privileges of the Burgh of Perth, confirmed by King James VI. translated from the principal Latin copy into English, by John Davidson, Notary Public, A. D. 1653, ib.
No. 2. Decreet obtained by the Burgh of Perth against the Burgh of Dundee, concerning the Liberties and Privileges of the Water of Tay, and priority of place, - - - 300
No. 3. Copy of the Charter granted by Queen Mary to the Trades of the Burgh of Perth, - - - 323

No.

Digitized by Google

Pag.
No. 4. Copy of King James's Charter in favour of the Craftsmen of Burrows, 327

SECT. V.—No. 1. List of the Ministers of Perth from the Reformation, - - - 331
No. 2. Account of the Rectors of the Grammar School, - - - - 338
No. 3. Account of the Academy, 341

SECT. VI.—Lists of the Subscribers for building the Bridge, in 1776, and the Public Seminaries, in 1804-5, - - 351
No. 1. Subscriptions for building the Bridge, - - - ib.
No. 2. Subscriptions for building the Seminaries, - - - 360

ME-

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Drawn by R. Livesey. Published for Will. Herrison, as the Act directs. Engd. by B. Smith.

St. John's Church

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH.

SECT. I.

A GUIDE THROUGH THE CITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

THE duties of the office which we have undertaken, cannot be fulfilled within the limits of Perth. The environs boast of places distinguished in history, and scenery marked by uncommon beauty. To these we must direct the attention of our visitors; and will, for that purpose, pay our introductory respects on the Edinburgh road, at that point where, having crossed and just begun the descent of the Ochil hills, we command a prospect of Strathearn.

The principal feature in the grand and extensive view we overlook from this station, is the Earn. This river flows from a lake about thirty miles to the westward, through the broad and delightful valley which

Digitized by Google

bears its name. On emerging from the loch, it gurgles on an inconsiderable rivulet, giving an indispensable charm to scenes beyond description picturesque; but soon acquiring more consequence, it becomes a river at Crieff; and obtains such magnitude below us, that vessels of small burden unlade their cargoes at the bridge. Pursuing a path winding as the Forth, it communicates fertility and beauty throughout the vale, of which the numerous elegant mansions, and comfortable farm-houses, announce the flourishing condition. On the right, is seen its conflux with the Tay, which, expanding here, spreads a broad frith to the ocean. The Carse of Gowrie forms the northern bank of the united rivers, and stretches within reach of the eye to Dundee.

Descending the hill, we descry Abernethy at some distance on the right. This dirty and inconsiderable village was once the capital of the Pictish kingdom; and in more modern times, was an archiepiscopal residence. Alas! how fallen! The only remaining vestige of antiquity is a circular tower, in which the bell of the parish-church is suspended *.

Approaching

* How dissimilar are the objects which attract the attention of different men! Some tourists fly from one commercial town to another, or from water-fall to water-fall, totally unmindful of those vestiges of antiquity with which their path is frequently strown. On the other hand, the author of a folio *Itinerarium* now before us, made but one hasty call at Luncarty, between Brechin and Abernethy; for although he must necessarily have paused to recruit nature at several large towns on the way, yet they were all too contemptibly modern to merit one passing regard!

Digitized by Google

Approaching the bridge of Earn, the mineral wells of Pitkeathly are about a mile to the left. As the waters are held in great esteem, the place is of course much resorted to in the summer season *. In fact, so numerous have the invalids and loungers been of late, that it sometimes has been difficult to procure lodgings. If the proprietor were to build a handsome village, with a ball-room, and the other appendages of a watering-place, we are persuaded the undertaking would prove of equal emolument to himself, and advantage to the surrounding country.

After

* The Rev. Mr Beatson gives the following account of these waters in his Statistical Account of the parish of Dumbarny: "The mineral waters of Pitkeathly, which have long been famed for their efficacy in curing or alleviating the scrophula, scurvy, gravel, &c. are situated in this parish. This mineral is gentle in its operation, has an agreeable effect in relieving the stomach of crudities, procuring an appetite, and exhilarating the spirits; and, instead of weakening, tends to strengthen the constitution. The water is of a cooling quality, and very efficacious in removing all heat and foulness of the blood. It is used both for drinking and bathing. In some cases, the warm bath has the most salutary effect, especially in scrophulous and scorbutic complaints; but should be used with caution, as it tends to weaken, if made too warm, or used too frequently. The time when this mineral was discovered cannot be ascertained; even tradition says nothing of the first discovery. There are five distinct springs, all of the same quality, but of different degrees of strength. In 1771, some experiments were made on one of the mineral springs by Dr Donald Monro of London, which, in 1772, together with a letter from the late Dr Wood of Perth, on the same subject, were published in the 62d vol. of the *Philos. Transf.* This year, (1792,) Mess. Stoddart and Mitchell, druggists in Perth, have, with much attention and accuracy,

Digitized by Google

After crossing the Earn, the road turns somewhat to the westward under the base of the hill of Moncrieff, or Moredun, the summit of which commands a prospect so extensive, varied, and delightful, that some have not hesitated to style it "the glory of Scotland*." Although we must confess, those who have eulogized this view so highly were natives of Perth, yet let not the incredulous stranger decline the walk. In addition to the delight we dare promise him in looking round from the site of Carnac, he will, if a botanist,

analised the several springs. The following table is the result of their experiments:

A TABLE, shewing the contents in a wine gallon of each of the mineral waters of the estates of Pitkeathly and Dumbarny.

	Names of the Waters.					
	East Well.	West Well.	Spout Well.	Dumbarny Well.	South Park Well.	
Atmospheric air,	4	4	4	4	4	cubic inch.
Carbonic acid gas,	8	8	6	5	5	cubic inch.
Carbonate of lime,	5	5½	5	5½	3	grains.
Sulphate of lime,	5½	5	5½	3	5	grains.
Muriate of soda,	100	92	82	57	44	grains.
——— of lime,	180	168	146	102	84	grains.
Specific gravity of a gallon of each more than distilled water,	216	198	172	124	98	grains.

* "On the highest top of this hill, we have one of the finest prospects in Perthshire, perhaps in Scotland. Towards the east, the

Digitized by Google

botanist, be gratified by the acquisition of many rare and beautiful plants.

Although a favourable gap in the ridge which Moncrieff Hill terminates, has been taken advantage of to carry over the high-way, yet the pull is steep. The top attained, Perth and its enchanting environs are in view. From this spot, the invading legions of Rome caught an enraptured view of a vale, beautiful as the fairest Eden of their native Italy. They descended and pitched their tents; for now they exclaimed, 'We have found another field of Mars on the banks of another Tiber!' Succeeding ages have enriched, softened, and harmonized the features of this scene, the sequestered character of which the town may

the whole Carse of Gowrie, with all the noblemen and gentlemen's seats, are distinctly seen, with the town of Dundee and Broughty Castle at the influx of the river to the sea. In a particular attitude are to be seen Perth and Dundee in one view. When we turn to the west, Strathearn lies open, with a view of many noblemen and gentlemen's seats. At the west end is a curve of the Ochil hills, which intercepts a view of Stirling castle; but we see the hills of Monteith beyond it. On the highest summit of the hill there is a circular fossé above sixty yards in diameter, in the middle of which stood Carnac Fort, which belonged to the Picts. There were several fortresses on the top of hills through the kingdom, which served for watch-towers. On the tops of these they used to kindle fires on sudden invasions, insurrections, or the approach of the enemy. These signals were communicated from tower to tower, until the whole country was alarmed, and flew to arms. They were attended with the blowing of horns, which was a signal of war. Three miles south-east from this hill is to be seen Abernethy, the metropolis of the Pictish kingdom."—Cant.

Digitized by Google

may have destroyed, but certainly without lessening its beauty, or decreasing its interest †.

Gradually descending, we come to the South Inch, through which, by an avenue of trees, we enter Perth. But it is meet we should pause on that beautiful green. It was the scene of the athletic sports and games of our ancestors. Here the quoit was thrown, the arrow shot, and the ball struck with an energy and power, compared to which the nerveless efforts of modern arms appear ridiculous and contemptible. Within these few years, that monster *improvement* has levelled a little eminence, which stood at one end of this green, and bore the name of the *Scholars Knoll.* Here the bow was twanged, and the arrow sped its way to a distance of 3000 feet,—for so far removed was the target *! The avocations of commerce leave

† Previous to the reformation, Perth was a strongly-fortified town, surrounded and filled with embattled buildings, and the glittering spires of numerous religious houses. Few vestiges of fortification or ancient architecture now remain, and the suburbs are annually extending on every hand.

* Mr Adamson, the metrical historian of Perth, thus laments the past celebrity of the inhabitants in sports of the field.

" How can I chuse but mourn, when I think on
Our games Olympic-like in times agone?
Chiefly where in our cunning we did try,
And matchless skill in noble archery.
In these our days, when archers did abound
In Perth, then famous for such pastimes found:
Among the first for archers we were known,
And for that art our skill was loudly blown;

What

Digitized by Google

leave the inhabitants little time now for the exercises of the field. Golf is still a favourite game, but the practice of archery is disused and unknown.

A row of villas has been planned at the north end of the Inch, and the lots disposed of; but none are yet built. Some of them will encroach on the site of a

What time Perth's credit did stand with the best
And bravest archers this land hath possest.
We spar'd nor gains nor pains for to report
To Perth the worship, by such noble sport;
Witness the links of Leith, where Cowper, Grahame,
And Stewart won the prize, and brought it home;
And in these games did offer ten to three,
There to contend: *Quorum pars magna fui.*"

On this passage, his commentator, Mr Cant, has the following note: "Archery, of which the gentlemen of Perth were great masters, was made an indispensable article of education from the days of James the First. This most accomplished and wise Prince passed an act, forbidding the favourite diversion of foot-ball, substituting in its place that of shooting with bows and arrows. Every boy, when he came to the age of thirteen, was obliged at stated times to practise archery at certain bow-marks. There is a piece of ground without the north port on the left of the road leading to Huntingtower, called the Bow-Butt, where this exercise was practised; but the strong and expert archers had their bow-marks in the South Inch. Near the south end of this Inch stands yet a stone, which tradition says was the southern mark; the northern is near to the north-west side of the ditch that surrounds the mount. It was fixed on a rising ground, called the Scholars Knoll. The stone was but lately carried off. The distance betwixt these marks is above 500 fathoms. They must have been very strong and expert archers who could shoot an arrow betwixt these marks."

Digitized by Google

a citadel which Cromwell erected. Part of the fossé remains, and is the only vestige of the work *.

We now enter Perth, and shall lead our travellers to the Salutation, or to the George Inn. At either house they will experience comfortable treatment.

Our perambulation of the town we shall commence at the cross; or rather where the cross anciently stood, at the intersection of the High-Street by the Skinner-gate from the north, in a line continued southward by the Kirkgate. It appears latterly to have been an erection

* "Cromwell's army built the citadel, on the head of the South Inch, a little below the Greyfriars burial-place, to over-awe the town. It was a stately and strong work; square, with a bastion at every corner, surrounded with strong ramparts of earth, and a deep ditch full of water. Opposite to it, they built a pier for the loading and unloading ships. The entry towards the town had an iron gate. The commanding officer ordered great trees to be cut down in the King's hunting-park at Falkland, and brought to the citadel. The school-house was demolished, which contained 360 scholars, was three stories high, and contained rooms for the Rector, Doctors, and Music-master. They demolished the walls of the Greyfriars, which were between six and seven quarters high, carried away the stones, with betwixt two and three hundred tomb-stones, and one hundred and forty dwelling-houses, with the garden-walls, the Hospital, containing many large rooms, and three stories high, the croſs not inferior to Mary Magdalene's chapel. The stone-pillars and abutments of the bridge, besides many kilns and cobles; all were carried away to build the Citadel. One hundred and forty families were turned out of their houses, and had starved if they had not been supplied by the town. The surface of the two Inches, which yielded 2000 merks yearly for grass, were carried off to build the ramparts. All this the town suffered for their loyalty."

CANT.

Digitized by Google

erection of some elegance, and on great occasions was the scene of public rejoicings. Here stood the sixth James, and partook of the festivities on his being proclaimed *Provost of Perth* * !

Until within these few years, the Skinnergate was the only avenue to the town from the north; and when we recollect, how recently the wooden fronts of the houses projected far enough to admit of the friendly contact of hands across the street, it is matter of astonishment how our ancestors

* This curious fact is thus narrated by our poetical historian, and his commentator:

"But who shall shew the Ephemerides
Of these things, which sometimes adorn'd that city?
That they should all be lost it were great pity;
Whose antique monuments are a great deal more
Than any inward riches, pomp, or store;
And privileges would you truly know,
Far more indeed than I can truly show:
Such were our Kings good wills, for to declare
What pleasure and contentment they had there.
But of all privileges this is the bravest,
King *James the Sixth was burgess made and Provost:*
And gave his burgess-oath, and did enroll
With his own hand within the burgess-scroll
And Guildry-book his dear and worthy name,
Which doth remain to Perth's perpetual fame,
And that King's glory. Thus was his gracious pleasure,
Of his most loving heart to shew the treasure;
Writing beneath his name these words most nervous,
Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos;
That is, It is the Lyon's great renown,
To spare the humble, and proudlings pester down:
Which extant with his own hand you may see;
And, as inspir'd, thus did he prophesy:

Digitized by Google

cestors could for so many centuries submit to an inconvenience which in a trading town must have been severely felt. The street was named from the profession of its inhabitants, who were, and still continue to be, skinners and glovers. The manufacture of leather, in all the various manners by which art has appropriated it to the use of man, has long been carried on to a considerable extent in Perth. In adapting it to the purposes of clothing, her citizens have been

What will you say if this shall come to hand,
Perth's Provost London's Mayor shall command?
Which words when we did hear, we much admir'd,
And ev'ry one of us often inquir'd
What these could mean? Some said, he meant such one,
That London, yea all England, like had none.
Some said, he minds his dignity and place;
Others his gifts of nature, and of grace.
All which were true indeed, yet none could say
He meant that England's sceptre he should sway,
Till that it came to pass some few years after,
Then hearts with joy, and mouths were fill'd with laughter:
Happy King James the Sixth! so may I say,
For I a man most jovial was that day,
And had good reason, when I kiss'd that hand,
Which afterwards all Britain did command."

And thus Mr Cant: "This anecdote looks so like a ridiculous falsehood and vain-glorious fable, that it is no wonder if strangers laugh it to scorn, who know that the King is the supreme magistrate, and fountain of all honour. But, however improbable it may appear, there is a foundation for what is recorded in the poem. In the Guildry-register is to be seen, A. D. 1601, *Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos;* and under this motto, James R. all written with the King's own hand. Upon the next page of the register we see, "*Nemo me impune lacessit*, July 24.

Digitized by Google

been peculiarly successful, and have acquired a well-earned reputation for *cheapness*. It is proper, however, to warn our readers, that several of the most extensive dealers have deserted their native lane, to exhibit their wares in more spacious and better-frequented streets.

Through the Skinnergate, narrow and frequently dirty as it is, we must direct our footsteps. At the north

24. 1650, Charles R." There are blank leaves both before and after these royal subscriptions. Charles II. was crowned at Scone on the 1st of January thereafter. In the miscellaneous manuscript in my custody before mentioned, Mr Dundee, who was on the spot, writes thus: "*Item*, On the xv Apprill in anno a thousand vi hundred ane yeir the Kingis Majestie came to Perth, and that same day he was made Provost with ane great scerlane of the courteoures, and the bancait was meid at the crois, and the Kingis Majestie wes set downe thereat, and six dozin glasses brokine, with many owdir silver pissis and pewdir vescilles; and thair the King maid ane great solleime aith to defend the haill libertie of this brouche."

"Mr Dundee, a man of reputation in the town, narrates this strange transaction as done at the Cross in sight of the whole town; if it had been a falsehood, both he and the poet had subjected themselves to public ridicule. The King and his courtiers could not have devised a more popular measure to pacify the people of Perth, who, on the fifth of August before, when their beloved Provost, Earl Gowrie, was barbarously murdered in his Majesty's presence, were exasperated to such a degree, that the whole town was one tumult, from whom the King and his retinue narrowly escaped. The indignation of the people subsided; the King had gained the leading men, and a considerable party in the town, in hopes of favour and preferment. The King condescended to be nominal Provost; and we see from the records, that the court-party for a long time had been chosen magistratee."

Digitized by Google

north end stood the castle, the usual residence of the monarchs, previous to the erection of the Dominican monastery in the Blackfriars; but not a stone now remains.

Another building now annihilated also stood in this neighbourhood, probably on the castle-grounds, but the chapel of St Lawrence does not appear to have boasted any magnificence, and Robert III. having given the property to the monastery of Blackfriars in 1405, the monks suffered it to fall into decay.

Miln Street runs westward, but offers no object to interest curiosity. It contains two tan-works, and an establishment for wool-spinning.

The narrow street continuing northward is the Castle-gable. This spot is so low, that it is sometimes laid under water, when highland torrents swell the river. Perth has been frequently inundated, and sometimes in an alarming manner. To guard against this evil, the streets have been raised from time to time; and although the Castle-gable is now the lowest situation, it may not have been so when it bore the proud turrets of the city's defence.

Beyond, on the left, is the Curfew Row, where, as may be inferred from the name, hung the bell at whose toll the inhabitants extinguished their lights and fires. It is not out of place here to mention a custom which seems to have originated in something similar to the *couvre feu*. At seven in the evening, and five in the morning, a piper and drummer traversed the town, exercising in unison their respective professions. Owing to the death of the piper, this usage has been for some time laid aside; but we trust his place will soon

Digitized by Google

soon be supplied, and our interesting serenade continued *.

We enter the grounds which belonged to the monastery of Blackfriars by a wynd bearing their name. Within these few years these lands have been laid out for building the terraces, places, and crescents of a new town. The ancient building of which they were the property, was founded by Alexander II. in 1231, and became the royal residence after the demolition of the castle. Here the unfortunate James I. fell under the hands of traitors. The Parliament sometimes met in the church of this monastery; where also the national ecclesiastical councils held their meetings. No trace of it now remains.

Foundery Lane, (so named from an extensive work of that kind which it contains), leads into Methven Street, and this last conducts to the Horse Barrack. This very handsome edifice was erected in 1795, and contains accommodation for a body of 200 cavalry.

Returning

* The deceased *Johnny Smolt* played the Irish bag-pipe with much pathos; and on a calm morning, while all was still, one of his plaintive airs gradually swelling in approach, accompanied by the murmur of the deafened drum, and again softening into silence, had an effect inexpressibly soothing and delightful. Surely our magistrates will have too much reverence for an ancient, peculiar, and interesting custom, to suffer it to fall into disuse. It may be said, it answers no purpose; to which we would reply, it costs little money; and the rank for which our Provosts so properly insist in the Convention of Burghs*, will prove of as little positive advantage to the community.

* Perth contends for the distinction of sitting on the right hand of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, which prerogative Glasgow disputes. It is only since 1482, that we have given place to Edinburgh; it were too much to "kiss the ground before young Glasgow too!"

Digitized by Google

Returning by Athol Street, we pass Rose Terrace, on which an elegant building is nearly finished, to contain halls and apartments for all the public seminaries. It will cost upwards of L.6000, which sum has been, or is nearly raised by voluntary subscription *. The houses on each side are built in such a style as will render this street, when finished, in the highest degree ornamental to the town.

At the south end of the Terrace, the crescent forms an elegant sweep, and Athol Place succeeding, connects the new with the old town.

In front of all these buildings is the North Inch †. That beautiful lawn is laved by the noble Tay, the opposite bank of which is clothed in all the luxuriance which elegant embellishment and unwearied cultivation can produce. To this Inch a great number of acres have lately been added, and the old road to

* The schools of Perth have long been famous, and students resort to them from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland. The names of many learned and distinguished men are among those of the teachers of the last three centuries; and the list of pupils is still more illustrious. We have room to mention only two who received the rudiments of their education here,—*The admirable Crichton*, and the great Earl of Mansfield.

† While Perth was a walled town, the Inches must have been the scenes of frequent combats. One of a singular and interesting nature, which took place on the North Inch, we shall relate in the words of Mr Cant: "In the reign of Robert the Third, there was irreconcileable enmity betwixt the M'Intoshes and M'Kays, two powerful and fierce clans. The King sent the Earls of Dunbar and Crawford with an army to reduce them to order. They wisely tried to make up the matter, by proposing to

Digitized by Google

to Dunkeld, which formerly passed through it, is now ploughed up. Perhaps the community of no city in the kingdom are in possession of a finer or more extensive green; and the inhabitants do not neglect their good fortune. Cows grazing; women washing and bleaching linens; groups of the inhabitants enjoying a walk, or some more active amusement; and companies of soldiers exercising, are continually enlivening the scene, which is in the highest degree delightful.

During the season of salmon-fishing, a walk on the North Inch has an additional interest. In good seasons, thirty, forty, or fifty salmon are sometimes taken at one hawl; and there have been instances of a number much and incredibly larger. The vast quantity of this exquisite fish which the river annually produces, is mostly consumed in London; and the inhabitants of Perth justly complain of the

to the chiefs to pick out thirty men on each side, and decide the quarrel in the North Inch of Perth, in presence of the King; and they undertook that the conquering party should be honoured by him. They accepted the proposals, and thirty on each side were chosen by their chieftains. They met in a place surrounded by a deep trench, around which galleries were built for the spectators. When they were ready to engage, one of the M'Intoshes was seized with a panic, and hid himself. This accident stopped them, till Henry Winde, a saddler in Perth, advanced, and offered to supply his place for half a French gold-dollar. The terms were accepted; the combat began, and was carried on with redoubled fury on both sides, until twenty-nine of the M'Kays were killed. The remaining *one* unwounded, wisely judging that he could not resist the impetuosity of Henry Winde, and ten M'Intoshes who were left alive, jumped into the river Tay, swam to the other side, and escaped."

Digitized by Google

the difficulty they have in procuring a dish which nature has provided them. This arises from the circumstance of all the fishings in the neighbourhood being farmed by two houses only, who find it their interest to forward a regular supply to the London market. In days of no very ancient date, servants used to stipulate, that they should not be obliged to dine upon salmon more than twice a-week!

On the west side of the Inch stands Balhousie. The situation of this mansion on a swelling bank, crowned with aged trees, is fine. Behind the house, secluded from view, is a flour-mill, the water that drives which, tradition says, was procured from the town's *lead*, or aqueduct, by the artifice of a former proprietor. This crafty knight of elder times, begged a boon of his sovereign, which being granted, bore the modest aspect of a boot-full of water from the canal at a given spot; but when he produced the boot, it was deficient in a sole, and thus he obtained a continual current for the mill of Balhousie *.

Returning from our walk on the Inch, Charlotte Street leads us to the Bridge, where we will now take our

* When the Balhousie cut was originally taken off, does not appear. Mr Cant has the following note: "The boot of Balhousie is a ſtrong stone-work on the east bank of the aqueduct, in which is a round hole, with a ring of iron at both ends, thirty-two inches round, for conveying water from the aqueduct to the mill of Balhousie, by contract and agreement betwixt the Eviots of Balhousie and the town of Perth. In the archives of the town, the following contract is recorded. "This indenture, maid at Perth the 19th June 1464, betwixt the alderman, baillies, counſell, and communitie of Perth, and Richard Eviot of

Digitized by Google

our station. This edifice, of which Perth is justly proud, is very modern; having been finished only in 1771. It is a simple and unadorned, but stately and elegant structure; and has resisted an accumulated pressure of ice and water, which could not have been exceeded by any of the inundations which threw down similar buildings of former ages at this place. More than one have given way to the impetuosity of floods. The great inundation in the thirteenth century, (which Boece fabled to have destroyed ancient Bertha), swept away a stately bridge; and in 1621, a building of ten spacious arches was carried off. After the demolition of the latter, many unsuccessful attempts were made for its restoration. A subscription was made by James VI. Charles Prince of Wales, and a long list of noblemen and gentlemen; but the king's death suspended the scheme, and the turbulence of the succeeding reign prevented the execution of the design. For the following century and a half, the opposite bank of the river was gained only by ferrying. At length, the present Bridge was built by a subscription, which was in a great degree procured, and entirely given effect to, by the public

of Balhousie, the said bowt shall be taen up and newlie maid of threttie twa inche of wydnes within at baith the endis, and bandit with iron baith within and without at baith the ends." This stone-work was lately repaired, and the rings adjusted according to the original contract, in presence of commissioners appointed by the Earl of Kinnoul, now proprietor of Balhousie, and the magistrates of Perth. The descent of the water into the canal of Balhousie through the ring, forms a strong cascade, where people, afflicted with rheumatisms and colds, bathe to be relieved of their complaints."

Digitized by Google

spirit of a nobleman *, who had retired with honour from the diplomatic service of his country; but who, in his retirement, did not neglect the welfare of his neighbourhood. The village of Bridgend, formerly inconsiderable and neglected, has, since the building of the Bridge, become thriving and populous; and the value of land on that side of the river has risen rapidly. But this building has contributed, not to the prosperity of Perth and its neighbourhood alone; it has been productive of benefit to all the north of Scotland.

Turning again towards the town, we enter George Street; which was opened since the building of the bridge. In this street, among other handsome houses, are the Bank, and the Glovers Hall. This last (a large and handsome room) is the scene of all public amusements.

We are now returned to the High Street, at the east end of which stands the Prison and Town-House, occupying the site of the ancient chapel of the Virgin. This erection was close to the great gate of the old Bridge †, and the priests had access to the river by a stair called our Lady's Steps. Here there is now a small quay, which is chiefly

* The Earl of Kinnoul.

† "The old Bridge was a stately building, and a great ornament of the town. It was in a line with the principal street where the Town-Hall now stands, and had a very strong gate at the entry from the street. In the time of inundations it was often in danger by the water gorging, both on the side of Perth and Bridge-end on the opposite side of the river. There is extant, among the records belonging to the abbacy of Scone, an order from King Robert Bruce to the abbot and monks, to allow the magistrates of Perth the liberty of digging stones out of

Digitized by Google

chiefly occupied by boats with cured cod, haddocks, and other fish from the north seas, which remain until their cargoes are disposed of. The jail contains a sufficient number of apartments, but they are cold and dirty, and the building is so insecure, that justice as well as humanity calls loudly for a new prison. Want of unanimity in the county has hitherto prevented so desirable an acquisition; but it now forms

of the quarries of Kincarochie and Balcormac for building the bridge of Tay, the bridge of Earn and the kirk, which, on account of its simplicity, I give to the reader.

"Robertus, Dei gratia, Rex Scotorum, religiosis Abbate et conventui de Scona, dilectis et fidelibus suis, salutem: Vos rogamus, quatenus ad instantiam nostram, concedere velitis licentiam capiendi lapicidiorum de Kynkarachi et Balcormac, pro edificatione ecclesiæ de Perth, et pontium de Perth et Eryn, ita quod dicta licentia non cedat vobis in damnum aut præjudicium. Datum, apud Glascuæ, quarta die Julii anno regni nostri vigesimo tertio." The above order was granted A. D. 1329.

A considerable citizen of Perth, called Dundee, has recorded several events, with their dates, in a miscellaneous manuscript in my possession, begun A. D. 1570, and continued by his son to A. D. 1636. He says, "The falline doune of the three bowis of the brig of Tay be the greit wattir and of Lowis Vairk on the 20 of Decembir, in anno 1573."

"The downe falling of 5 bowis of the brig of Tay on the 14 day of Janeveir, in anno 1582 zeiris."

"The downe falling of the bra trein pillaris of the brig of Tay on the 29 day of Decembre, in anno 1589 zeiris."

Among the records belonging to the house of Pitthevlis, there is an order from the King and secret council for allowing the magistrates of Perth the liberty of stones out of the quarry of Pitthevlis for repairing the bridge, on payment of fifty merks yearly, until the bridge is finished. The order is dated, A. D. 1599,

Digitized by Google

part of a system of improvements which is likely to be carried into effect. A street is intended to be carried along the river from the bridge, as far as the town extends, to be terminated at each end by an elegant public building. At the north end, it is proposed to have a coffee-room, and assembly-rooms; and at the other extremity, a new prison, and public offices. Such a street will certainly be of equal use and ornament to the town.

Proceeding

1599, Feb. 7. John Murray of Tibbermuir, and John Roſs of Craigie, proprietors of the quarry.

The bridge was totally demolished by the overflowing of river on the 14th October 1621. The surreptitious and in fect history of Calderwood, gives the following account o desolation:

" October 4th, A. D. 1621, the stately bridge of Perth completed, consisting of ten arches, was destroyed by swelling of the river Tay. The water o ond, be-weſt the town, came down on the west as da the river on the east. The town was e that none could pass out for five or six habitants go from house to house for Young children were let down at wi The people ascribed this wrack to town; for there was held the last G other in 1596, when the schism in the here was held that Parliament, at whi and the Lords rode first in their scarl was certainly a piece of fine and stro cond arch next to the town is yet to the bed of the river, when the wate son. In July 1771, I went on boa men, and rowing gently over this ar oining of the stones with a white injury of one hundred and fifty ye

Digitized by Google

Proceeding along the High Street to the west, the first opening on our left is the Watergate, which being, until within these few years, the principal avenue from the south, was one of the best frequented streets in town. In it were many mansions of the nobility, and the courts towards the river still contain several good houses which open into gardens. At the north-west corner, an old British temple is said to have stood. A handsome modern house now on the spot, has a marble stone in front, bearing the arms of the family of Aldie, and the following inscription:

"... stood the howse of the green."

This h... e green, where the golfers of elder times ... deposit their cl... balls, certainly occup... uation of som... nsiderable and older ... as in diggi... dations of the hous... aneous ap... very ancient archi... re discover...

A ... er on is Jo... ; a new avenue whi... nvenience ... tergate suggested th... f. But, ... nical to apply for an ... liament, ... ere made with pro... p... instead ... ng a street spacious is ... formed by projecting

... n's Church. This an... ave been in the form of ... Saviour suffered. It was ... Holy Cross of St Jo...

Digitized by Google

part of a system of improvements which is likely to be carried into effect. A street is intended to be carried along the river from the bridge, as far as the town extends, to be terminated at each end by an elegant public building. At the north end, it is proposed to have a coffee-room, and assembly-rooms; and at the other extremity, a new prison, and public offices. Such a street will certainly be of equal use and ornament to the town.

Proceeding

1599, Feb. 7. John Murray of Tibbermuir, and John Roſs of Craigie, proprietors of the quarry.

The bridge was totally demolished by the overflowing of the river on the 14th October 1621. The surreptitious and imperfect history of Calderwood, gives the following account of this desolation:

"October 4th, A. D. 1621, the stately bridge of Perth newly completed, consisting of ten arches, was destroyed by the high swelling of the river Tay. The water of Almond, and a loch be-weſt the town, came down on the west hand, as dangerous as the river on the east. The town was environed with water, so that none could pass out for five or six days; nor could the inhabitants go from house to house for the water in the streets. Young children were let down at windows by cords to boats. The people ascribed this wrack to iniquity committed in the town; for there was held the last General Assembly, and another in 1596, when the schism in the kirk began; and in 1606 here was held that Parliament, at which bishops were erected, and the Lords rode first in their scarlet gowns." This bridge was certainly a piece of fine and strong workmanship. The second arch next to the town is yet to be seen, lying entirely on the bed of the river, when the water is low in the summer-season. In July 1771, I went on board a boat with some gentlemen, and rowing gently over this arch, we clearly discerned the oining of the stones with a white cement, untouched with the injury of one hundred and fifty years."—CANT.

Digitized by Google

Proceeding along the High Street to the west, the first opening on our left is the Watergate, which being, until within these few years, the principal avenue from the south, was one of the best frequented streets in town. In it were many mansions of the nobility, and the courts towards the river still contain several good houses which open into gardens. At the north-west corner, an old British temple is said to have stood. A handsome modern house now on the spot, has a marble stone in front, bearing the arms of the family of Aldie, and the following inscription:

"Here stood the house of the green."

This house of the green, where the golfers of elder times used to deposit their clubs and balls, certainly occupied the situation of some more considerable and older building, as in digging the foundations of the house, subterraneous apartments of very ancient architecture were discovered.

A little farther on is John's Street; a new avenue which the inconvenience of the Watergate suggested the necessity of. But, too œconomical to apply for an act of Parliament, bargains were made with proprietors, and, instead of producing a street spacious and elegant, it is crooked and deformed by projecting corners.

John Street passes St John's Church. This ancient building appears to have been in the form of the cross on which our Saviour suffered. It was called "The Kirk of the Holy Cross of St Johnston;"

Digitized by Google

and although it has been almost entirely rebuilt at different periods, yet enough of the ancient architecture remains, to shew that it has been an uncommon fine structure. At the north-west corner, two stately and beautiful arched windows rear themselves, now naked and useless, above the present roof of the West Church, which far below has sunk its diminished head. These, with the adjoining tower, are evidently the most ancient parts of the building, and convey an idea of former grandeur, which contrasts, in a melancholy manner, with its present appearance. The edifice is divided into the East, West, and Middle Churches. The former was the choir, and still retains, uninjured, its magnificent pillars, and beautiful window. The steeple contains some fine bells *.

At the west end of the church stands the Academy. This seminary was instituted in 1761, and has continued

* "The parish-church could not be built prior to the year 412; for it was not till that year, that the Southern Picts, who inhabited the country south from the Grampian mountains, were converted to the Christian religion. The pious missionary among these heathens, who were the ancestors of the generality of the people in this part of the country, was Ninian from Galloway.

But the church might be built shortly after; and probably was one of the first in the kingdom that was built with stone.

The present edifice has undergone many changes. Some parts of it are evidently of a much older structure than the others are.

After the year 1126, when the property of the church and tithes had been given to the abbey of Dunfermline, no great care, as might have been expected, seems to have been taken of the fabric. The monks endeavoured to throw the burden of the work upon the town, and the town upon the monks; and when monastery

Digitized by Google

tinued to increase in reputation. The branches of education which are taught here, are such as qualify for business or the army, rather than the learned professions. Board and lodging are provided reasonably in the houses of the masters, and students are always numerous.

Behind the Academy is the Butcher-market, which is always well supplied; and as the slaughter-houses are at some distance, there is no want of cleanliness.

To

monastery churches began to be built in Perth, in the reign of Alexander II. the zeal of the people was diverted from attending to the concerns of the parish church.

During the national confusions, which commenced in the year 1290, this, as well as other public works, was necessarily disregarded. At length Robert the Bruce, in the year 1328, which was the year before his death, and when he had, in a great degree, restored good order in the kingdom, used some means for the reparation of the church and bridges which belonged to Perth. It does not appear who were chiefly to bear the expences; but he directed the following letter to the abbot and convent of Scone, as proprietors of some quarries in the neighbourhood.

"Robertus, Dei gratia, Rex," &c. "Robert, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to our beloved and faithful religious men, the abbot and convent of Scone, greeting. We request, and that very earnestly, that you would grant liberty of taking hewed stones of Kyncarachi and Balcormac, for the edification of the church of Perth, and of the bridges of Perth and Eyrn: Providing always that this liberty shall not be of any prejudice or damage to you. Given at Glaſco, the fourth day of July, in the twenty-third year of our reign."

The church had been repaired, or at least was fully in use, about eight years after, when the following event is said to have happened in it.

Digitized by Google

To the south side of the church a new house has been *stuck*. The first floor is appropriated for the business of the kirk-session. Up two pair of stairs, the drawing master of the Academy gives his lessons, and the highest story contains a public library. As this last possesses no funds but those arising from the subscriptions of the readers, the sum annually appropriated for purchases is small, but the selection is judicious. In this room also are held the sittings of a

The national troubles had been renewed, during the minority of David Bruce. The English King, Edward III. took possession of Perth in July 1335, which became the head-quarters of his army, and where he resided for some time.

He was again at Perth in July 1336, and while he continued there, being one day, as it should seem in the month of September, standing before the altar of St John, in the parish-church of Perth, his brother, John Earl of Cornwall, who had newly arrived in Perth, came to him.

This young prince, in his way from England, had treated in general the Scots he had met with as enemies. He had wasted, it is said, with fire and sword, the western counties, though the people had submitted themselves, and were in peace with the King his brother. He had burnt the church of the priory of Lesmahago in Clydesdale, besides some other churches, and numbers of persons in them, who had fled thither as to holy places of refuge.

The King, who had heard of his proceedings, immediately when he saw him, remonstrated to him upon the wanton cruelties he had committed. The prince, as Fordun relates, returned a proud answer, which so much provoked the King, that he suddenly drew a small sword, or dagger, and gave him a mortal wound.

As Fordun expresses it, the prince "being wounded with the small

Digitized by Google

a society formed for the prosecution of literary and antiquarian researches of every description, but particularly those having a relation to Perth.

The Grammar-School Vennal leads to the South Street. In a garden, on the left hand, a chapel dedicated to St Ann, the mother of the Virgin, formerly stood. Adjoining, there was an hospital for the entertainment of the poor, but no traces of either remain. We pass by an arched way under the school, and

small sword, or dagger of his brother, which had been suddenly drawn, was divested of human affairs." (Vol. ii. p. 323.)

The English writers say, that the Earl of Cornwall died at Perth, in October 1336; but they take no notice of his death being occasioned by a wound which he had received from his brother. Fordun was living in Scotland at the time, and began to write his history in 1341; and it can scarcely be supposed that national prejudice would have influenced him so far as to mention such a circumstance, if he had not been certain of it.

The king and his brother were both of them young men. The Earl had not attained the years of majority. No doubt he deserved to die, if he was really guilty of the crimes represented. But the English laws justly required, that the punishment should have been preceded by a formal trial.

The church was in good repair in the year 1400; and it is not improbable that the choir, or east part, had been then rebuilt. Masters were appointed to take care of the fabrics of the church and bridge of St John. The former altars of the saints seem to have been removed; and a multitude of new altars began to be founded. Only the great altar of John the Baptist, the tutelary saint, behoved always to be kept up, according to the notions entertained in those days, and to stand always in the same place, viz. at the east end of the choir. The first of the new altars founded was that of St Ninian, by Robert Brown, burgess of Perth, 14th August 1401.

Under

Digitized by Google

and turn to the left along the South Street. In the Fountain Close was the residence of the bishops of Dunkeld. If we except a large room, lately occupied as the Linen Stamp-Office, which seems to have been the hall, few traces of external magnificence, or interior convenience, are to be discovered.

At the east end of this street stands the heretofore princely house of Gowrie. It was built by the Countess of Huntly in 1520, and on the confiscation of the

Under the whole area of the church dead persons were buried; but this manner of burial was seldom allowed after the Reformation.

The north-east end of the choir, near to the door of the revestry, was the burying-ground of the family of the Earls of Gowrie. During the first half of the last century, permission was several times given for some of the relations and descendants of the family to be buried there. Its description in the registers is, "the north-east nook of the kirk;" and James, Earl of Gowrie, who died in 1589, is particularly mentioned as having been buried in that place.

The buildings adjoining the church were,

1. The Revestry. It stood at the north side of the choir, with which it had a door of communication. The priests kept their vestments in it, where they occasionally retired to change them, according to the different parts of the service they were to perform.

After the Reformation, it was the place where the kirk-session held their meetings.

It was lately taken down, and a new session-house was built at the south front of the West Church.

2. Halkerston's Tower. It is a very old structure, seemingly now much decayed, contiguous to the north wall of the West Church. It probably took its name from some remarkable person who had been confined in it.

After

Digitized by Google

the estate of the unfortunate Gowrie, became the property of the town. Previous to 1745, it had various proprietors; but at this period we find it again at the disposal of the magistrates, who hastened to express their gratitude to the fortunate Duke of Cumberland, by presenting him with this valuable property. Shortly it passed into the hands of government, and the extensive buildings and gardens have ever since been appropriated to the accommodation of a detachment of artillery, seldom exceeding

After the Reformation, many of the persons who had fallen under ecclesiastical censure, were confined in its apartments by the direction of the kirk-session. It is sometimes now a place of confinement for offending soldiers, who have been put under arrest by their officers.

3. The burying vault which belongs to the family of Mercer of Aldie.

This very ancient vault has its opening from within the Middle Church, near to the north side of the north aile, and extends northward a considerable way from under the north wall.

The tradition concerning it may be seen in the following old verses, which I received many years ago from a gentleman in Aberdeen, the late Mr David Mercer, who was a descendant of the family. They appear to be a translation from the Latin.

"On the Arms of Aldie.

"Behold the arms of the Mercers are
Three mill rynds, three gold balls, with glistering star;
To let the world know that their ancient race
Possess'd three mills, for many ages space,
In pleasant Perth, near situate by Tay,
Which mills Perth keeps unto this present day.

Three

exceeding a dozen of men! Again the town has recovered the property, and soon the whole will be razed to the ground, to make way for the new street, and the consequent improvements! Let us not repine. Attachment to this interesting old house is natural, but antiquarian predilections ought not to be for a moment indulged, when opposed by the higher considerations of public utility. Indeed, so much has this mansion been altered and dilapidated, that the identity of Gowrie-house is almost destroyed; and we will have to regret only the removal of a pile of building which large sums of money have been expended in disfiguring, without rendering of use. At the south-east corner of the garden stands the Monk's Tower, and at the south-west, towards which we walk along the Speygate, was the ancient and strong Spey Tower. Between the former and the site

Three balls next shew them potent in each thing,
Therefore they gift these mills unto the King,
Who for their golden gift, and loyal mind,
With arched tomb in church did them provide,
With lands, rents, arms of privilege and fame,
Kept now by Adie's lairds, chief of the name.
Lastly, the star, clear shining as a gem,
Proves their descent out of Moravian stem.
Likewise their will and virtue doth presage,
In name and fame to last with shining age.
Therefore men may avow, with justest breath,
Mercers are, yea, older than old Perth."

The two concluding verses, in which the Mercers are represented as older than old Perth, refer to Boece's fabulous story of Perth having originally stood two miles farther north."

Scott's Statistical Account.

Digitized by Google

site of the latter, a wall still exists which was part of that which surrounded the city.

A convent of Grey-friars * once stood without the city at the end of the Speygate. The town's burying-place now bears their name. It has no tombstones of sufficient elegance, nor epitaphs beautiful, ludicrous, or quaint enough to attract attention †.

Adjoining to the grounds of Gowrie-house is a quay for the delivery of coal-vessels. A little below is

* "The Grayfriars, or Observantines, were invited over by King James I. Their convent stood without the Speygate, or South Port, on the right-hand, which is now the public burying-place. It was founded by Lord Oliphant in the year 1466. Buchanan says, it was destroyed the 11th May 1559. Knox informs us, that the convent was very well provided; their sheets, blankets, beds, and coverings, were such, that no Earl in Scotland had better. Their napery was fine. There were but eight persons in the convent, yet they had eight puncheons of salt-beef, wine, beer, and ale, besides store of other victuals. Within two days, so busy were the mob in destroying idolatry, that the walls of this edifice only remained."—CANT.

† There is one, however, which we shall insert here, not for any excellence of poetry, but because of its commemorating an eminent artist. We give it, with Mr Cant's explanatory remarks. "The old bridge, which was destroyed in 1621, was but lately finished before that destruction. It was built under the direction of Mr Mylne, a celebrated architect, whose progenitor was distinguished by James III. who was a great patron and encourager of Masonry. Mr Mylne's tomb lies in the Grayfriars burying place, with the following inscription, without a date:

This stone entombs the dust of famous Mill,
Renowned chiefly in his time for skill

In

is a dock-yard where two vessels are generally on the stocks. Farther down the river is the quay, where vessels with miscellaneous cargoes unload; and still lower is one appropriated for lime-vessels. Although the Tay is the largest of British rivers, if we estimate their magnitude by the quantity of water contributed to the ocean, yet its navigation is so much interrupted by a shallow a little below the Inch, that many vessels prefer transmitting their cargoes by lighters from Newburgh,

In architecture; his learned art did lay
The spacious arches of the bridge of Tay,
Which as demolished by a mighty spate,
So was his fabric by the course of fate:
Six lustres since, and more his progenie
Succeeding to that art their sire outvy;
And this assigned, his worth deserved one
Of jet or marble, not of common stone.
Seven foot of ground, clay-flour, clay-wall,
Serve both for chamber and for hall,
To Master Mill whose squrbuile brain *,
Could ten escurialls well containe,
Whill he breath'd life, yet in his sonne,
And sonn's sonne, he lives two for one;
Who, to advance Mill's art and fame,
Make stocks and stones speak out his name.

One of his descendants removed to Edinburgh, and built Mylne's-court, Mylne's-square, and other buildings about the Abbey. Two celebrated architects, Mr Robert Mylne at London, and his brother Mr Mylne at Edinburgh, are descended from him."—CANT.

* "A French word adopted into the old Scottish language, and used in the northern counties to signify an ingenious artist, who understands every science."

Digitized by Google

Newburgh, ten miles below, rather than run the risk of being detained by neap-tides above the bar. To obviate this obstruction, it has been proposed to construct a wet-dock in the Inch, to communicate by a canal with the river below the shallow. It has been calculated, that a very small impost on tonnage, and one too that would be willingly paid, would defray the expence of this undertaking. If that is the case, we may reasonably hope that the plan will very soon be carried into effect.

Crossing the Inch, to re-enter the town by Prince's Street, we pass the yards of the timber-merchants, whose trade forms a material part of the immediate imports of Perth from the Continent. A little farther on is the English Chapel, an elegant structure.

The South Street will be found to contain little worthy of notice. It is straight and spacious, but the houses are mean. On the south side stands a meeting-house of the Missionaries, a large building, but without any pretensions to architectural elegance. On the opposite side, is a Church of Relief. It is not seen from the street, and will not reward the curiosity of those who go out of their way to examine it. Near the ground which it occupies, there stood a chapel which was undoubtedly an erection of more magnificence. Why it was denominated the chapel of Allareit, or Loretto, we do not learn. Another religious house occupied a situation at the end of the South Street on the north side, which was called the Rood Chapel, or Chapel of the Holy Cross. But the most sumptuous building which adorned Perth, appears to have been the Carthusian Monastery,

Digitized by Google

Monastery, which stood where the Hospital is now. The monks of this order had no other establishment in Scotland. They settled here in 1429, and their residence was denominated *Monasterium vallis virtutis*. In 1559 the building was razed, and its inhabitants driven out to find refuge elsewhere *. The Hospital, which

* "The building was a very fine structure. Its destruction by the mob, A. D. 1559, about the beginning of the Reformation, was greatly lamented and resented by the regent Mary, who threatened the town of Perth. Knox, violent as he was for the Reformation, disapproved of these barbarities in razing noble structures to the ground.

"Oswald de Corda, Vicar of the Chartrieux near Grenoble, was the first superior of this monastery. He died, A. D. 1434, and was succeeded by Adam de Hanglefide, a Scotsman.

"The monks had large revenues assigned to them. Adam Foreman, the last Prior, when the monastery was demolished, retired, together with his brethren, to Errol, of which church they were patrons. There he feued out to John Foreman, son and heir of Robert Foreman of Luthrie, for a sum of money, the lands of the Chapel of Mary Magdalene, Friertown, and Craigie, and the south part of the island below Perth, with the salmon-fishings.

"King James the Sixth afterwards confirmed to James Moncrieff, *secundum tenorem feudifirmæ*, given by the prior and convent of the Chartrieux Monastery to John Moncrieff, the 14th of November 1569, the house, place, and all the lands, orchards and gardens, stanks, and bulwarks without the town, belonging to the monastery, with the tithes. This charter is dated at Leith, 18th May 1572, and the 5th year of his reign.

"He created George Hay of Nether Lyffe, Commendator of the Priory of the Charter-house, giving all the emoluments belonging to it, together with a place and vote in Parliament. This patent is given at Holyroodhouse; and to support his dignity,

Digitized by Google

which is intended for the reception and support of infirm paupers, is a large and handsome building *.

There is nothing to induce a farther walk to the westward. The Chapels of St Leonard † and Mary Magdalene

dignity, the King grants him by another charter, dated from the same place, 1st February 1598, of his reign the 32d year, all the ecclesiastical lands of Errol, with their privileges and pertinents.

"But the said George Hay, finding the rents too small to support the dignity of a Lord, returned back to the King his peerage, and resigned his title of Lord in his Majesty's hands, reserving to himself and his heirs the patronage of the church of Errol; which resignation, with the reservation, were accepted of by his Majesty. Thus the name of Lord and Prior of the Charter-house of Perth became extinct.

"Mr Patrick Russel, one of the continuators of Fordun's Scotichronicon, was a Monk in the Charter-house; the other two were Magnus M'Calloch, Monk at Scone, and the principal author was Walter Bower, or Bow-maker, Abbot of Inchcolm."—CANT.

* "Provost James Cree laid the foundation-stone of this elegant building, which was finished in 1750. Incredible numbers of oyster-shells were dug out of the foundations. The holy Monks abstained from flesh in the time of Lent, and indulged their appetites with this luxurious and nutritious shell-fish, for reasons best known to themselves. The reliets of this delicious morsel are to be seen among the rubbish of all the religious houses."

CANT.

† "St Leonard's, on the east and west sides of the long causeway leading to the bridge of Earn, stood about a quarter of a mile south-west from Perth. A farm house which goes by the old name, stands upon the spot opposite to it. On the east is a rising ground, where the chapel stood. The lands now belong to the glovet-corporation. Prynne makes mention of *La Priorest*

Magdalene formerly stood to the southward, but they, as well as St Katherine's at Claypots, and St Paul's at the north-west end of the New Row, have shared in the general destruction effected by the popular fury of reformation.

Leonard Street, Powmarium, the New Row, and the suburb of Earl's Dykes, are almost entirely occupied by weavers. Perth was long a place of great consequence in the linen trade: the manufacture of this article was very extensive, but it has now almost entirely given place to that of cotton. From this valuable plant, cloths of every fabric and quality are woven to a very large annual amount.

Methven Street leads northward, and crosses the High Street, where one of the gates formerly stood. The situation is now loaded with a church, the structure of which architects will not much admire. It had been often remarked, that another steeple would much improve the prospect of Perth; but, to have a steeple, it was necessary to have a church, and therefore the foundation was laid of St Paul's chapel! Exactly opposite to, and very close upon the new church, is a meeting-house of Independents, which lays no claim to elegance.

The

de Seint Leonard, juste la ville de Seint Johan de Perth. The Prioress is made mention of ad an. 1373, in the chartulary of Aberbrothock. It was suppressed by K. James I. and annexed to the charter-house of Perth, which he founded, together with the Magdalene's lands. The nunnery of St Magdalene was about a computed mile south from Perth, where there is a most excellent spring of living water, one of the best in this country."

CANT.

Digitized by Google

The High Street continues a considerable way to the westward, approaching nearly to the suburb of Dovecoatland, (where formerly stood a monastery of Carmelites), beyond which a causeway is continued to the Town's Muir, a large tract of land which belonged to the community, and on which wood was annually felled to a considerable amount. This property, within these few years, has been feued out, and great part of it is now under crops, surrounding the handsome houses of the feuers.

Paul Street leads us northward to the town's corn and flour mills. These were royal property, until assigned by Robert III. to the town. They are driven by a canal, or *lead*, from the river Almond, of very remote antiquity. The water is taken off about three miles above Perth, and was originally employed to fill the ditch that surrounded the fortifications. Now, besides driving the wheels of the flour mills, it supplies the tables of the inhabitants. It were most devoutly to be wished, that the water for the latter use was procured from a different source: that of the town's aqueduct has no unwholesome property, but it is so liable to be contaminated by the poisonous liquids that are used in immense quantities at the bleachfields and printfields through which it passes, that the use of it is frequently dangerous. But, although this damning reason did not exist, the circumstance of its being rendered so excessively turbid by the slightest rains, would operate decisively with magistrates who were desirous of satisfying the demands of utility before they studied adornment.

We return to the High Street through the Mill

Digitized by Google

Wynd. On the right hand, proceeding eastward, is the meeting-house of the Burghers, and, on the left, that of the Antiburghers, both plain buildings. Farther, on the right, is the Guildhall; and continuing, we pass the court in which the Parliament-house anciently stood. We are now returned to the Cross, after having completed the tour of the city.

The preceding pages are supposed to have occupied the afternoon of arrival. The next day must be devoted to the environs. A ride should be the business of the morning; and, although the country is pleasant on every hand, the following is the route which we would recommend to preference:—Retracing the Edinburgh road rather more than a mile, we strike off to the left, by a path which leads entirely round the Hill of Moncrieff. As far as we ride eastward, we accompany the Tay, which flows smoothly under the sublime crag of Kinnoul, with which it unites to form a scene of uncommon grandeur. As the road turns round the hill, the view, formerly confined, now magnificently expands. The luxuriant plain of Gowrie is extended for more than twenty miles under the eye, the waving line of its boundary marked, on one hand, by the widening river, and fixed, on the other, by a chain of hills. Below, on the left, is Elcho, recently a strong castle containing a nunnery, but now a ruin *. Immediately below, the Tay

* "Elcho is a large and strong castle, on the south side of the river,

Digitized by Google

Tay receives the tributary streams of Earn, against the course of which our way now leads. The south side of Moredun hill is extremely steep and craggy, but, being clothed with wood wherever there is soil, the effect is charming. Close under its towering rocks the path winds, and, crossing again the great road, continues onward to Duplin, along the bases of hills, which are all ploughed to the top, or covered with thriving plantations. Throughout the ride westward, the prospect is continually changing, and presents to the delighted eye a rich and varied succession of banquets.

river, about a mile below Kinfauns. It belongs to the Earl of Wemyss, and gives the title of Lord to the eldest son of that family.

"The nunnery of Elcho was founded by David Lindsay of Glenesk, and his mother; and from this family the Earls of Crawford are descended. Madoch, Earl of Strathern, gave the lands of Kinnaird, in Fyfe, to the nunnery, which were afterwards feued out to Alexander Leslie, by Magdalen, Prioress of this place.

"When Wallace returned from France, he landed above the mouth of Earn, and ordered a ship to be sunk in the narrow passage, to prevent the English ships from sailing up the river; and, with about twenty men, he came to Elcho park, among whom was Thomas a Longueville. The English governor at Perth received intelligence of their arrival, and ordered Butler, with a strong party, to surprise them. Wallace slew him, cut his way through his troops, and marched to Methven, from thence to Birnham wood, where he met with his friend William Ruthven, sheriff of Perth, who was banished by the English. He proceeded with his small company to the Highlands, where he collected an army, returned and besieged Perth, and obliged the English governor to surrender it up."—Cant.

Digitized by Google

quets. The mansions which ornament the country are numerous, but we think it unnecessary to particularise them, as we are ignorant of any that contain either libraries, or specimens of art, of consequence enough to excite the curiosity of the traveller. The seat of the Earl of Kinnoul, at Duplin, is, however, an exception: this noblemen has here a collection of books of considerable value, comprising many fine editions of the Greek and Roman classic writers, and others which are scarce. The pictures also are numerous, and some of them by eminent masters.

If, after having surveyed this mansion and its pleasure-grounds, enough of the day remains, the ride should be prolonged to the northward. Proceeding by Tibbermuir towards Methven, we traverse a country which, if not marked by picturesque scenery, offers a prospect of improving cultivation which cannot fail to interest and to please. A view is obtained, on this part of the ride, of a wider range of the sublime Grampians than any other spot commands. Here too, casting the eye to the eastward, the summits of Dunsinnan * are seen rearing themselves above the high grounds that rise from the Tay.

Methven

* "Near this we did perceive where proud Macbeth
(Who to the furies did his soul bequeath)
His castle mounted on Dunsinnan hill,
Causing the mightiest peers obey his will,
And bow their necks to build his Babylon.
Thus, Nimrod like, he did triumph upon
That mountain which doth overtop that plain,
And, as the starry heaven, he should attain
A lofty tower, and Atlas caused build,

Then

Digitized by Google

Methven witnessed a bloody battle in 1306, when Robert Bruce was defeated by Edward's general, Sir Aymer de Vallance. On a beautiful slope, in front of an extensive wood, stands Methven castle, where the sister of Henry VIII. and widow of James IV. died the wife of Lord Methven *. Past this building, our way leads to the romantic bridge of Dalerue, near to which is the grave of Bessy Bell and Mary Gray, celebrated

> Then tyrannizing rag'd as Nimrod wild;
> Who had this strange response, that none should catch him
> That born was of a woman, or should match him,
> Nor any horse should overtake him there;
> But yet his sp'rit deceived him by a maze,
> And by a man, was not of woman born,
> For brave Macduff was from his mother shorn."
>
> THE MUSES' THRENODIE.

* "Margaret, eldest sister of Henry VIII. was first married to James IV. After his fatal death at Floudon, she married Archibald Douglas, the second Earl of Angus of that name, to whom she bore Lady Margaret Douglas, mother of Lord Darnly, who was father of James VI. The Queen remained in England at her brother's court about a year after Lady Margaret's birth, and then returned home. Having got intelligence that Angus, during her absence, had a daughter by a daughter of Lord Traquair, who was afterwards married to Patrick Lord Ruthven, the Queen would not be reconciled to Angus, and procured a divorce, contrary to the advice of her brother Henry. She afterwards married Henry Stewart, son to Lord Evandale, whom her son James V. created Lord Methven, and made him General of the Ordnance; she died about the end of the year 1539, at Methven castle, and was buried with great funeral pomp at the Charter-house Monastery in Perth, near the tomb of James I. and his Queen Jane. The King, accompanied by many of the nobility, attended the funeral."—CANT.

Digitized by Google

celebrated in Scottish song. * Through the village of Pitcairn Green, we arrive at another delightful bridge, by

* The following communication Mr Cant acknowledges himself to have been indebted for to Major Barry, the then proprietor of the estate on which this classic spot is :—" The common tradition of Bessy Bell and Mary Gray is, that the father of the former was laird of Kinvaid, in the neighbourhood of Lednoch, and the latter laird of Lednoch; that these two young ladies were both very handsome, and that a most intimate friendship subsisted between them. That while Miss Bell was on a visit to Miss Gray, the plague broke out in the year 1666; in order to avoid which they built to themselves a bower, about three quarters of a mile west from Lednoch house, in a very retired and romantic place, called Burn Braes, on the side of Brauchie Burn. Here they lived for some time; but the plague raging with great fury, they caught the infection, it is said, from a young gentleman, who was in love with them both, and here they died. They were buried in another part of Mr Gray's ground, called the Dronach Haugh, at the foot of a brae of the same name, and near to the bank of the river Almond. The burial-place lies about half a mile west from the present house of Lednoch. The old family-seat was a castle which stood on a small hill on the banks of Almond, a very strong situation naturally. The ditch that surrounded two thirds of the castle still remains, and the hill is called the Castle-hill to this day. This lies about a quarter of a mile west from the present house.

" The Holy hill, on which stood three crosses, is about a hundred yards south-west from the house. There is another sacred hill called the Cross-hill, on which stood a cross of great antiquity; this lies about a mile and a half north from the house, and near to the foot of which there are three wells, called the Bishops' wells, which lie within a few yards of each other in a triangular shape. The tradition of these wells is this, that the Bishop of St Andrew's, the Bishop of Dunkeld, and the Bishop of Dumblane, all met at these wells, and each stood at the well, on his own diocese, and drank to each other. These are the most remarkable curiosities on my ground," &c.

Digitized by Google

by which we repass the Almond. Above is a manufactory of paper, situated in the most picturesque and charming manner; and, below, a valley extends, which is enlivened by numerous works, and throughout beautified by this rapid and transparent river. A bleachfield occupies the nearest delightful grounds; another paper-mill succeeds; and beyond these, one of the most extensive print-works in the kingdom animates the prospect. Besides these establishments, numerous water-mills are in motion, most of which are on the town's aqueduct, which is taken from the Almond at *Low's Wark* *. The road again returns to the high-way, passing the ancient castle of Ruthven, the name of which, on the murder of the chief of that house in 1600, was changed to Huntingtower. The apartments of this mansion, which formerly witnessed the banquetings of mighty lords, and luxuriously sheltered the slumbers of royal guests, are now subdivided, to form humbler dwellings for the artificers at the printfield.

* "Then through these haughs of fair and fertile ground,
Which with fruit-trees, with corn and flocks abound,
Meandering rivers, sweet flowers, heavenly honey,
More for our pastime than to conquesh money,
We went a-shooting both through plain and park,
And never stay'd till we came to *Low's Wark*,
Built by our mighty kings for to preserve us,
That thenceforth waters should not drown, but serve us;
Yet, condescending, it admits one rill,
Which all these plains with chrystal brooks doth fill,
And, by a conduit large, three miles in length,
Serves to make Perth impregnable for strength;
At all occasions, when her clowses fall,
Making the water mount up to her wall."

MUSE' THERMODIE.

Digitized by Google

printfield. Splendour is fled, but comfort remains, or, perhaps, did not till now exist.

The last object remaining to be pointed out on our return to town, is Tulloch, the first bleachfield which was established in this neighbourhood.

The afternoon should be occupied by a walk on Kinnoul hill. The road to the summit is no where steep or rugged enough to overpower the most delicate inhabitant of drawing-rooms. Montague walk, winding through the wood nearly one half of the way, is too pleasant to permit any idea of fatigue. But, should any slight sensation of that kind be experienced, the view from the summit will repay such an expence a thousand fold. The *profanity* of description we shall avoid, but we cannot help quoting a passage from an immortal author, which, often as it has been cited before, was never, perhaps, applied more *aptly*:

——— "How fearful
And dizzy 'tis to cast one's eye so low!
The crows and choughs, that wing the mid-way air,
Shew scarce as gross as beetles: Half way down
Hangs one that gathers samphire: dreadful trade!
Methinks he seems no bigger than his head:
The fishermen, that walk upon the beach,
Appear like mice; and yon tall anchoring bark
Diminish'd to her cock; her cock! a buoy
Almost too small for sight: The murmuring surge
That on the unnumber'd idle pebbles chafes,
Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,
Lest my brain turn, and the deficient sight
Topple down headlong!"

The

Digitized by Google

The precipiece of Kinnoul is above 600 feet perpendicular; a height which considerably exceeds that of Dover Cliff. One magnificent part of the description is indeed wanting; but, in place of the ocean, there is a noble river, and all the other objects offer themselves to our admiration.

At the bottom of the hill, on the bank of the river opposite the South Inch, formerly stood the Castle of Kinnoul; but the plough has now removed every vestige of this edifice*.

Kinnoul

* "Kinnoul, so famous in the days of old!
Where stood a castle and a stately hold
Of great antiquity, by brink of Tay,
Woods were above, beneath fair meadows lay;
In prospect proper Perth with all her graces,
Fair plantings, spacious greens, religious places,
Though now defac'd through age, and rage of men,
Within this place a lady did remain
Of great experience, who likewise knew,
By spirit of prophecy, what should ensue:
Who saw wight Wallace, and brave Bruce on live,
And both their manhoods lively did descrive
Unto that noble Prince, first of that name,
Worthy King James, who hearing of her fame,
Went to her house these histories to learn,
When as for age her eyes could scarce discern.
This lady did foretell of many things,
Of Britain's union under Scottish Kings,
And, after ending of our civil feuds,
Our spears in scythes, our swords should turn in spades,
In sign whereof there should arise a knight,
Sprung of the bloody Yoke, who should of right
Possess these lands which she then held in fee,
Who for his worth and matchless loyalty
Unto his Prince, should greatly be renown'd,
And of these lands instyl'd, and Earl be crown'd:

Digitized by Google

Kinnoul hill will undoubtedly occupy the whole of the evening. What remains to be visited is to the northward, and on the following day we shall accompany our visitors far enough on their way to Dunkeld, to point out what we consider worthy their observation.

We must set out *on foot* along the eastern bank of the river. The carriage should be desired to proceed by the highway, about an hour afterwards to wait at the bridge of Almond, as we have previously to visit a place of much note in history, the palace and abbey of Scone. Do not expect to see venerable ivy-covered towers nodding in ruin. A palace is even now erecting which will not be exceeded by many in extent

> Whose son, in spite of Tay, should join these lands
> Firmly by stone on either side which stands."
>
> MUSES' THRENODIE,

The family of Kinnoul is sprung of the bloody Yoke! being descended from the brave husbandman who rallied his flying countrymen at Luncarty, and led them to a successful charge against the pursuing Danes—his only armour a yoke. It may subject us to ridicule, gravely at this day to point out the fulfilment of another part of this matron's prophecy. It undoubtedly was a descendant of the bloody Yoke who built the present bridge, in as much as Thomas, the eighth Earl of Kinnoul, laid the foundation-stone in 1766, interested himself to collect subscriptions, lent the sum that was deficient, and, in fact, proved the soul of the undertaking. The words of the poem which we have quoted were *in print* in 1637.

Digitized by Google

extent or magnificence. Until the building is finished, any furniture of the old house which exquisite art or antiquity has rendered valuable, cannot be seen; but, we are sorry to say, the regret of the visitor need not be extreme, for little of it has any such claim to notice. Part of the aisle of the ancient abbey still remains, and is used as a receptacle for the ashes of the noble family * to whom it belongs. It contains one monument of tolerable sculpture †. The Tay must

* The family of Stormont, now Mansfield.

† Mr. Adamson celebrates Scone in very high terms indeed:

"As we thus talk'd, our barge did sweetly pass
By Scone's fair palace, sometime abbey was;
Strange change indeed! yet is it no new guise,
Both spiritual lands and men to temporize? *
But palace fair, which doth so richly stand,
With gardens, orchards, parks on either hand,
Where flowers, and fruits, the hart, and fallow-deer,
For smell, for taste, for venison and cheer,
The nose, the mouth, the palate, which may please,
For gardens, chambers, for delight and ease,
Damask'd with porphyry and alabaster,
Thou art not subject for each poetaster,
But for a poet, master in his art,
Which thee could whole describe, and every part;
So to the life, as 'twere, in perspective,
As readers that they see thee might believe."

Mr. Cant subjoins the following note:—

"Scone stands about a mile and a half north from Perth, on the opposite side of the river. It was an abbey founded by Alexander I. A. D. 1114, and was dedicated to the Trinity and Michael the Archangel. Our kings were accustomed to be crowned

must be ferried in a fisherman's boat, and a short walk succeeds to the mouth of the Almond, where, on the northern bank, stands a very little village, retaining the ancient name of *Bertha*. Here, some historians have fabled, that Perth originally stood; but the researches of more correct investigators have satisfactorily proved the existence of that city in its present situation long before the inundation (1210)

crowned here; and here the fatal marble chair in which they were crowned was kept, which was sent by Edward Longshanks to Westminster, where it still remains, with this inscription on the stone—

Ni fallit fatum, Scoti quocunque locatum,
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.

Buchanan and other writers say, that the abbacy formerly belonged to the Culdees. This abbacy, with other religious houses at Scone, was burnt down in a barbarous manner at the time of the Reformation, 27th June, A. D. 1559. The monks were found to be a profligate and impious fraternity. It was erected into a temporal lordship by K. James VI. A.D. 1604, in favour of Sir David Murray, of Gospetrie, a cadet of the house of Tullibarden. The present Lord Viscount Stormont (1774) is his lineal descendant and heir. The ground that surrounds the remains of the ancient church is considerably raised, and is called *omnis terra*."

Hume, in his History of the Douglases, gives us the origin of this name:

"When Robert Bruce was crowned 27th March A.D. 1306, Sir James, the eighth Lord Douglas, assisted, and cast into a heap, as did the other barons, a quantity of earth of his lands of Douglas, which, making a little hill, is called *omnis terra*. This was the custom of those times; by which homage, they who held the King of Scotland supreme under God, were distinguished from others."

Digitized by Google

(1210) which was said to have swept it away from this place. But, although there is no reason to suppose a Scottish town of any consequence ever existed here, yet it has undoubtedly been a Roman station, probably of some importance. Various vestiges of that people have been dug up, and, when the Tay is very low, the remains of a bridge may yet be seen *. Farther

others." It is said that the Barons of Scotland could receive investiture of their lands as lawfully, by delivering earth and stone from this spot, as from their own lands. We are also informed, that anciently the conventions of the nobles were held in this place.

The following, another note of Mr Cant's, would lead us to believe this hillock of more ancient origin :—

"The most ancient council in Scotland, which we have on record, was holden at Scone, the sixth year of the reign of our king Constantine, the son of Ethus, A. D. 906, in which Constantine, and Kellach the bishop, with the Scots, solemnly vowed to observe the laws and discipline of faith, the rights of the churches, and of the gospel, on a little hill, from thence called "Collis Credulitatis," (Knoll Creidimh, I suppose in the vulgar language), near the royal city of Scone; it is like, it was the place so famous afterwards by the name of the *Mutehill* of Scone, called *Omnis terra*."

* The following lucubrations of Mr Cant, on the subject of Bertha, are not devoid of interest :—

"There is a small village at the conflux of Tay and Almond, called to this day Bertha, where are some lanes in it known by the name of Vennals, a name by which several narrow bye-streets in Perth are known.

"The river Almond anciently had its course by Ruthven castle, now Huntingtower; and there is a small rivulet about half a mile below the present Almond, generally dry in the summer-season, known by the name of Old Almond. Almond, in its course,

is

Farther walking is unnecessary till we arrive at Luncarty, four miles from Perth, on the right. This place, which in former times was the scene of a very bloody

is cutting the grounds towards the north, and the village of Bertha, which anciently stood on Tay, stands now at the conflux of Almond and Tay, and, in a few years, may be carried off, as the Old Bertha was, by the waters undermining it.

"About fifteen years ago, a country labouring man observed the appearance of an earthen pot jutting out of the bank, a little above the surface of the water on the north side, about 160 yards to the west from Bertha: suspecting it to be a pot filled with money, he went and digged it out, and found it closely cemented on the top. Overjoyed with his acquisition, he carried it home with all secrecy, broke it, and was sufficiently mortified to find nothing in it but burnt ashes.

"I examined this shred of antiquity, now lying in ruins by means of avaricious hands. It was the largest urn I ever beheld, above half an inch in thickness, made of very fine clay of a light brown colour, plated on the inside with brass almost consumed, and covered with verdigrease; it contained about ten English gallons. I observed, on the face of this bank, six semi-circular pillars of earth, about eighteen feet in height from the surface of the ground to the bed of the river; the earth of these pillars is quite different from that of the bank, being of a dark hazle colour—the earth of the bank is reddish. Round pits had been dug out: the urns deposited at the bottom, and filled up with a mixture of glutinous earth rammed down.

"About two years after, I observed another pillar making its appearance after an inundation of the river, which had washed away part of the bank, about 150 yards on the west side of Bertha. This discovery was communicated to a learned and inquisitive gentleman of Perth. We went to the place, got a fishing-boat, and, by the assistance of a country-man, who, by our directions, digged cautiously at the bottom of the pillar, we found a small urn; but, notwithstanding of all our care and caution, he broke

Digitized by Google

bloody conflict between our ancestors and a plundering army of Danes, is now converted into a bleachfield, we believe the most extensive in the kingdom *.

Stanley,

broke it with his spade. The contents were a few ashes of oak-wood, and part of a lachrymatory, which was a small glass phial, the eighth of an inch in thickness. This urn would contain about an English quart and a half. Excepting the first, all the urns that were found were of like dimensions with the last described. It is very probable that, as the river washes away the bank, more urns may be discovered. These pillars are lines, about ten feet distant from one another.

"If I may be indulged a conjecture, there is reason to believe that the Romans had a *castellum*, or station, near to Bertha.

"Agricola, after having subdued the Britons, determined to fortify that neck of land which divides the two Friths of Forth and Clyde, to prevent the incursions of the warlike and fierce Caledonians; he erected a chain of forts betwixt the two Friths, and left the ninth legion to defend them. The Caledonians, finding themselves straitened by these bulwarks, and cut off from all communication with the Britons, in the seventh year of Agricola's proconsular government, surprised them in the night-time, and, after killing the guards, they attacked the camp with their usual bravery.

"The

* "Luncarty is famous for the decisive battle gained by the Scots over the Danes, in the reign of Kenneth III. towards the close of the tenth century. The victory was, in a great measure, owing to the valour of one Hay and his two sons, who were ploughing in sight of the engagement. Buchanan informs us, that the Danes were victorious, until Hay and his two sons came up, and turned back the fugitive Scots, who fell upon the Danes with redoubled fury, animated by Hay. They drove the Danes into the river. There is great probability that there had been several separate engagements, from the situation of the *tumuli*, of

Stanley, although a couple of miles out of the way, should certainly be visited; and where the road approaches closely to the Tay, the party should, once more,

"The proconsul, understanding by his spies that his legion was in danger, advanced to their relief. Early in the morning, animated by his presence, they gave a shout, returned to the charge, and repulsed the Caledonians, who fled north to their fastnesses in disorder.

"Enraged at this insult, the Roman soldiers besought Agricola to lead them against the Caledonians; he marched accordingly into Caledonia. Some vestiges of a *castellum* remain to this day near to Ardoch. From this place there is a military road, which leads by Methven, and goes a little above Bertha.

"While Agricola was in those parts, assembling his army to give battle to Galcacus, who, at the head of thirty thousand Caledonians, waited his approach at the foot of the Grampian mountains, about thirteen English miles north from Bertha, Tacitus informs us, that he met with a heavy stroke in the death of his only son, an infant, which greatly afflicted him. Afterwards he

burying-places. That these were repositories of the dead, has been confirmed of late by Mr Sandeman's improvements. On levelling severals of them which lay within the new inclosures, human bones were found, particularly upon a rising ground separated by a small vale from another rising ground, called *Turn-again hillock*, where, it is said, the flying Scots returned to the charge. There were six or seven *tumuli* on the top of this ground, which, in 1770, were levelled by Mr Sandeman; it appeared evidently that the earth had been artificially thrown up to cover dead bodies laid together. About three hundred yards eastward, there was a large *tumulus* removed, as it stood on the new high-road; here were found skeletons almost entire, not above two feet and a half below the surface, the earth above them was a light gravel. In this place some rough stones were laid together in form of a coffin, in which were found human bones mingled with

Digitized by Google

more, betake themselves to their feet. A foot-path leads along the bank of the river, which not yet having assumed the solemn majesty which characterises it in

he led the army to the foot of the Grampians, where a bloody battle was fought for a considerable time. Victory sometimes hovering over Agricola, sometimes over Galgacus, the Romans fighting for glory, the Caledonians for life and liberty, until many of their chiefs fell, at last they gave way, and retired in disorder through the mountains, and left Agricola master of the field.

"Aulus Atticus, captain of a cohort, was a gentleman of rank and merit; whether fired with the thirst of glory, or driven by the impetuosity of his horse, it is uncertain, he rushed in among the Caledonians, and fell, lamented by Agricola and the army.

"The particular spot where this battle was fought is not certainly known; some say that it is at Comrie, others at Fortingal; at both these places there remain the vestiges of camps; others affirm, with more probability, that the battle was fought two miles west from Blairgowry, where are are to be seen

with the bones and teeth of horses. In summer 1771, Dr Boswell, physician at Edinburgh, was at Luncarty, and saw a *tumulus* removed. He examined the human bones, and carried to Edinburgh a jaw-bone almost full of fresh teeth. About seven hundred yards south, near the bank of Tay, stand eight *tumuli*, in a direct line from east to west. In the front of these stands a large *tumulus* next to the river: at a little distance is a large unpolished stone, where the Danish general is said to be buried, and seems to be placed in the middle of the Danish camp. There is to be seen on the land-side, the remains of a long oval rampart of earth. At the east end of these eight *tumuli* stand some cot-houses, which to this day are called Denmark. Near to this place, in a field cultivated by Mr Sandeman, was dug up the handle and part of the blade of a sword, which was sent to the Earl of Kinnoul. At the side of the rising ground first mention-

Digitized by Google

in more level lands, dashes over its rocky course with boisterous and foaming rapidity. The banks on either hand are perpendicular and bare; or sloping and warmly

a very great number of cairns, or *tumuli*, where there is an oblong square surrounded by a ditch, which, they say, was the Roman *vallum*; others affirm, that this was a deer-park made by Mr Blair of Glasclune. Among all these assertions and uncertainties, we have small hopes of coming at the truth. The greatest probability leans towards Blairgowry.

" The foot of the Grampians was the *ne plus ultra* of the Romans. Agricola returned, and soon after was recalled by Domitian.

" It is not improbable that the large plated urn found at Bertha, might be the repository of the ashes of Agricola's son; and that the urn in which we saw the lachrymatory might contain the ashes of Atticus, who would be interred with military honours.

" Those urns under consideration were but a short way from the Roman military road, which (according to tradition) leads to a bridge over Tay, about a quarter of a mile above Bertha. The ruins of this bridge are seen at low water in the summer-season. Very large and long square oak-planks lie sunk in the river on the

ed, near to the vale which separates it from Turn-again hillock, is a small rising ground, surrounded on the top with a fossé, which, probably, was a guard-place for a small detached party. It was but of late years that a boy, searching for honey below one of the *tumuli* at the west end, having seen a ground-bee enter there, he drew out a human scull full of honey-combs. The discoveries above-mentioned are owing to Mr Sandeman's improvements of grounds which lay uncultivated for centuries. Buchanan informs us, upon what authority we know not, that Kenneth ordered Hay to enter Perth in triumph, with the yoke wherewith he fought, surrounded by the victorious army, where the King raised him from the Plebeian rank to that of the noble, with the gift of a considerable territory to support his dignity. From him spring the illustrious Hays of Errol, Tweedale, Kinnoul, &c.

Digitized by Google

warmly clothed with trees, in changeful and frequently abrupt succession. With such features, we need not say that the views on this walk are picturesque in the highest degree, and occasionally sublime. The latter character particularly distinguishes the *Thistle Brig*, where the irresistible weight of waters appear to have compelled a passage through a high wall of rock, that seems, from the ruins on both sides, to have stretched across the channel. At Stanley there is an extensive cotton-spinning work. On each side, the steep banks of the river circularly receding, form a little

the spot. Some of them were lately dug up and raised, but one particularly large plank has been attempted in vain. On the straight road from this bridge to Blairgowry, near the conflux of Isla river and Tay, is the vestige of an encampment, where a bridge was thrown over Isla. It is a problematical question among antiquarians, whether this at Bertha was a wood bridge erected on stone pillars by the Romans, or by the ancient Caledonian Kings, as a communication betwixt Bertha and Scone, which stands on the opposite bank of the river. Dr M'Pherson, in the seventeenth of his Critical Dissertations, affirms from ocular demonstration, that many of the *tumuli*, or cairns, which are frequent all over the Highlands, have a stone coffin and an urn of a yellow colour, half-full of ashes and burnt bones, in the middle of the coffin; therefore the urns found at Bertha may be Caledonian, and not Roman.

"To this it may be answered, that the Caledonian urns are found in stone coffins below cairns, but those at Bertha are eighteen feet below the surface of the earth, wihout any coffin or cairn, and which seems to be decisive; one of the urns at Bertha was plated, another contained a lachrymatory, which was unknown among the Caledonians, and peculiar to the Romans. I am far from dogmatizing on such doubtful anecdotes, as are some of those I have named and submitted to the public."

Digitized by Google

little amphitheatre, adorned by the finest trees, embosomed among which is a pleasant residence which formerly belonged to the family of Athol.

Here we should take our leave, yet we would willingly accompany our visitors on another walk before they return to the highway. The Lin of Campsie is only a mile and a half above Stanley; the scenery is a continuation of that which we have admired from Luncarty; and, at the end of the excursion, we shall see the whole body of the Tay precipitated through a chasm in a rock not ten feet wide *.

Returned to Stanley, we pay our parting respects. Twelve miles from Perth, our friends will pass under Birnam Hill, and see where Birnam Wood *was*. Let them expect to be gratified—to be delighted—to be enraptured at Dunkeld; for they will not be disappointed.

MEMO.

* This is the general appearance of the fall in summer. In winter, or when the river is high, the waters, bursting over the huge rocky impediment, form a variety of foaming cataracts.

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH.

SECT. II.

HISTORICAL MEMORANDA.

PERTH gives its name not only to the parish, but also to the extensive county in which it is situated. So many and various have been the derivations of the word which antiquarians have suggested, that Lord Hailes in his Annals thought proper to reject them all, not knowing which to prefer. Of all the conjectures on the subject, the following, by the Rev. Mr Scott, appear most rational.

"The word Perth is pronounced by the Highlanders Peirt, or Peart. According to this pronunciation, the word is said, by some persons, to mean a finished labour, or complete piece of work; and to refer to the building of the town, or to the fortifications

Digitized by Google

with which it was originally surrounded. But Fordun, (vol. ii. p. 99.), when speaking of a remarkable siege which the town sustained from the Norwegians, in the time of the Picts, during which the Scots joined with the Picts in repelling the common enemy, says, "I have found, in some old writs, that the town of St John *, now called Perth, was anciently called Bertha." The contracted pronunciations of Bertha, are Berth and Bert; and, as the letters B and P were used indiscriminately in the Gaelic language, the Highlanders might easily change the name into Perth or Pert. Bertha, in the German language, signifies celebrity, splendour, or what is deservedly illustrious, the same as Eudoxia in the Greek. Those persons who were called Eudocia by the Greeks, were by the Germans called Bertha. If the Picts, therefore, in whose territory the town was, were originally Goths or Germans, there would be no necessity of seeking for a Celtic derivation of the word Perth."

The origin of towns and cities depends on a variety of accidental and anomalous circumstances. The ford of

* "The Picts, after they were converted to the Christian religion, or the Scots, after their king had succeeded to the Pictish throne, consecrated the church and bridge of Perth to St John Baptist, whom they seem also to have chosen tutelary saint of the town. In process of time many persons gave to the town the name of St Johnston. But it was never so called in any of the public writs, nor by the inhabitants in general."

SCOTT'S STAT. ACCOUNT.

Digitized by Google

of a river; the cell of a hermit; the inaccessibility of a mount; the fertility of a plain; the plenteous fishery of a sea-coast, or of a river, are among the causes to which the rise of most of the towns and cities of modern Europe is to be referred. The happy situation of the plain on which Perth stands, by combining many advantages, must have rendered it a frequent resort, if not one of the settled abodes, of the earliest inhabitants of the island. "There were towns in Britain," says Mr Scott, "prior to the time of the Roman invasion, But it may be presumed, that they scarcely deserved the name, because of the rude state in which the arts in Britain then were; and of the wandering manner of life to which the inhabitants, by war or otherwise, must often have been necessarily reduced. Whether, before the Romans invaded the country, there were any constant or occasional assemblage of the people in dwellings erected for them where Perth now stands, cannot, perhaps, at this distance of time, be determined with any certainty. We may therefore pass on to the generally-received opinion, which is, that the town was regularly built and fortified at the command of Agricola, while he was prosecuting his conquests on the north side of the Forth.

"Richard of Cirencester, the discovery of whose book has thrown great light on the antiquities of Scotland, when speaking of the Horestii, says, "Their towns were Alauna, Lindum, and Victoria *; the last of

* "It is not to be supposed that the natives of the country would affix to the town the Latin name Victoria. It might have recalled

of which was more illustrious than the rest, not only in name, but also in reality. It was built by Agricola, at the river Tay, twenty miles from the exit of that river into the sea."

"This is an exact description of the situation of the town of Perth, which he evidently meant; and Mr Whitaker, in his history of Manchester, applies the name accordingly. Perth, or Victoria, is reckoned to have been one of the Latin towns, on which ample privileges were always conferred."

We have a traditional account of the origin of Perth in The Muses' Threnodie of Adamson*, of which the following is the purport;

"Enæus

recalled to their minds, perhaps, some signal victory over them, which had given occasion to the name. But they might make use of a word in their own language, such as Bertha, to signify that the town appeared to them an illustrious piece of work.

"Other derivations of the name may be conjectured. Perhaps the goddess Victoria, or the Gothic deity of war, was in a particular manner worshipped by the Romans at Perth. Or perhaps the Victorian legion, which continued long in Britain, might have its principal station at Perth, either while Agricola was governor, or in the next century, when the Romans were again on the north side of the Forth, and where they remained about thirty years."—Scott's Stat. Account.

* "Mr Henry Adamson, a young man of the clerical profession, son of James Adamson, Provost of Perth, and brother to Dr John Adamson, Principal of the College of Edinburgh, wrote his

Digitized by Google

"Enæus Julius Agricola, in the third year after Vespasian had sent him to be governor in Britain, viz. about the year of the Christian æra 81, led a numerous army round by the pass of Stirling into the country on the north side of the Forth. New nations or tribes were discovered, which the Romans wasted all the way to the Tay. The people fled before them, so that Agricola, in his progress, had full leisure to erect many forts or castles.

"He had been nearly five years endeavouring to establish the Roman power in Scotland, when he was recalled by Domitian. At first the natives had been in use to demolish, in the winter, the summer-camps or fortresses; but these, as well as the winter-residences, were at last rendered impregnable.

"When Agricola and his army first saw the river Tay and the adjacent plain on which Perth is now situated, they cried out with one consent, *Ecce Tiber! Ecce Campus Martius!* Behold the Tiber! Behold the Field of Mars! comparing what they saw to their own river, and to the extensive plain in the neighbourhood

his metrical History of Perth about the year 1620, which was published, after his death, in the year 1638. The name which Mr Adamson gave to his book, was "The Muses' Threnodie;" but, according to the fashion of the times, when the book was to be published, it received the fantastical name of "Gall's Gabions." It is written in a very handsome and spirited manner; and William Drummond of Hawthornden, the celebrated Scottish poet of those times, wrote a complimentary letter to Mr Adamson, desiring him to publish his work, and congratulating the town of Perth on having given birth to a citizen "so eminent in love to her, and so dear to the Muses."

SCOTT'S STAT. ACCOUNT.

Digitized by Google

bourhood of Rome. The Italians, many ages after, were in use to give to the Tay the name of New Tiber; and Fordun gave the name of Tyber-more to an extensive moor which lies west from the town of Perth.

"As the field at Rome was by the early Romans consecrated to Mars, so their descendants found, in the field adjoining the Tay, an old temple, which the British or Welch writers say was built many ages before, by one of the British kings, and dedicated to Mars. The Romans performed worship there to that heathen deity, in hopes that their expeditions would thereby be favoured in the new country into which they were come.

"Agricola pitched his camp in the middle of that field, on the spot where Perth stands. He proposed to make it a winter-camp; and afterwards built what he intended should be a colonial town. He fortified it with walls, and with a strong castle, and supplied the ditches with water by an aqueduct from the Almond. Also, with much labour to his soldiers, and probably to the poor natives, a large wooden bridge was constructed over the river at Perth.

"These particulars, which Mr Adamson relates, were not of his own invention; they were agreeable to the current tradition. And he, or the speaker whom he introduces, says they were written in an old manuscript, but were slipt, as many other things were, out of the records which were more recent."

To

Digitized by Google

To what degree of credit they are entitled, cannot now be determined; but a fable of late origin, respecting the situation of Perth, demands refutation. Boece has a passage, of which the following is an abstract, in his History of Scotland.

"About the year 1210, Berth, or Bertha, which stood near to the river Tay, *nearly two miles north from Perth*, was destroyed in the night-time by a very great inundation. So violent was the torrent, that the whole town was undermined, the houses levelled, and many persons of both sexes lost their lives. The royal palace did not escape. The King's youngest son, John, with his nurse, were carried down the river and drowned, with about fourteen of the King's domestics. William the First, surnamed the Lyon, did not long survive the catastrophe, for he died A. D. 1214. He laid the foundation of the present town of Perth, and endowed it with ample privileges, which were confirmed by the succeeding monarchs, with many additional privileges, and was the *first royal burgh* of the kingdom."

Of this same inundation, we have an account differing in very essential particulars from Boece, both in Fordun and Major. The following summary of the narrative, in which both these respectable authors agree, is in the words of Mr Scott.

"In the year 1210, and, as some would have it, about the time of the feast of St Michael, there happened such a great fall of rain, as made the brooks and rivers exceed their usual channels, and carry off much of the harvest-crop from the fields. The water of Tay, with the water of Almond, being swelled by the

Digitized by Google

the increasing rain, and by a spring-tide from the sea, passed through a great part of that town, *which of old was called Bertha, now also Perth*, in Scotland. In consequence of a mound or rampart giving way, not only some houses, but also the large bridge of St John, with an ancient chapel, were overthrown. William, the King, David, Earl of Huntington, the King's brother, Alexander, the King's son, with some of the principal nobility, went into a boat, and sailed quickly out of the town, otherwise possibly they might have perished. Of the burgesses, and other persons of both sexes, some went into boats, and others fled for safety to the galleries or balconies which were over their houses."

In confirmation of this account, Mr Walter Goodall, in his edition of Fordun's Scoti-Chronicon, in the year 1759, thought it necessary, for the vindication of the antiquities of Perth, to subjoin to the account which Fordun gives, an annotation from a Latin manuscript in the College of Edinburgh. It runs thus:—"The author, viz. Fordun, plainly relates these things concerning *one and the same city*. But Hector Boece, and George Buchanan, his follower, tell a fabulous story of an ancient city called Bertha," &c. &c. &c.

Finally, in order to overthrow the fable utterly, the reverend and learned Mr Scott brought forward the following mass of evidence in his Statistical Account of Perth.

"1. It is certain that the town had the name of Perth long before the year 1210. There are many hundreds of charters, from about the year 1106 to the year

Digitized by Google

year 1210, still extant. Any person who will take the trouble of looking into these charters, will find, that whenever there was occasion to mention the town, its name was always written Perth, or Pertht, or, by way of contraction, Pert, the same as afterwards. There was no noble person who gave his name to Perth; but there were some persons who took their surname from that town. It was a mere local surname, as many others were. Thus, in ancient as well as in modern writs, persons are mentioned of the following surnames, viz. Stirling, Aberdeen, Abernethy, Dundee, Kirkcaldy, Hawick, Musselburgh, and many others of the same kind.

"2. It is certain, that tenements and streets in Perth are described in charters prior to the year 1210, the same as they afterwards were, which would not have been the case if the old town had been destroyed.

"I crave the indulgence of producing one instance from two charters which belonged to the abbey of Scone, and which are contained in the old chartulary preserved in the Advocates Library at Edinburgh. They are not very long; I shall therefore give translations of them, only adding the original words where the tenement and the street are described:

I. *Charter of William the King, to Henry Bald, concerning a land in Perth.*

"William, by the Grace of God, King of Scots, to all good men of his whole realm, clergy and laity, greeting.

"Know all, who are, or shall be, me to have given,

ven, and consigned, and by this my present charter, to have confirmed to Henry Bald, that land in my burgh of Perth, which James, the son of Simon, and others, my Provosts of Perth, have delivered to him according to my precept,

"To wit, that land which is in the front of the street, which leads from the church of St John Baptist to the castle of Perth, on the east side, opposite to the house of Andrew, the son of Simon. (Illam scilicet, quæ est in fronte vici illius, qui tendit de Ecclesia Sancti Johannis Baptiste, usque ad Castellum de Pert, ex orientali parte, contra domum Andreæ filii Simonis.)

"To be held to him and his heirs, of me and my heirs, in fee and heritage, freely, peaceably, fully and honourably. Rendering thence yearly to my Chamberlain one pound of pepper at the feast of St Michael.

"Witnesses, Hugh Chancellor; Philip de Valoines, my Chamberlain; Malcolm, son of Earl Duncan; William de Hay; Alexander, Sheriff of Stirling; Roger de Mortimer; Philip de Lundin; at Perth. 14th day of April."

To ascertain the year in which this charter was granted, it is necessary to make the following remarks concerning the witnesses.

"1. Philip de Valoines was made Great Chamberlain about the year 1180. But he continued in that office about thirty-three years.

"2. Duncan M'Duff, Earl of Fife, the father of Malcolm, who succeeded him, died in 1203.

"3.

Digitized by Google

"3. William de Hay died before the year 1199.

"4. Hugh Roxburgh, Bishop of Glasgow, was made Chancellor of Scotland in 1189, and died, Ides of July, 1199.

"The above charter to Henry Bald must therefore have been granted betwixt the years 1189 and 1199.

II. *Charter by Henry Bald, goldsmith, to the Monastery at Scone.*

"To all who shall see or hear these letters, Henry Bald, Goldsmith of Perth, wishes salvation.

"Know all of you, me to have given and consigned, and by this my present charter, to have confirmed to God, and to the church of the Holy Trinity, and of St Michael of Scone; and to the abbot and canons serving God, and to serve him there; in pure and perpetual alms, my two booths, with the gallery placed above them, within the burgh of Perth; in that land which William, of pious memory, King of Scots, granted to me for my homage and service. (Duas bothas meas, cum solario superposito, in burgo de Pert; in terra illa quam Gulielmus, piæ memoriæ, Rex Scotorum, mihi dedit pro homagio et servito meo).

"To wit, these two booths which are in the front of the street which leads from the church of St John Baptist towards the castle of Perth, on the east side, opposite to the house of Andrew, the son of Simon; those two booths, to wit, which are towards the north; (scilicet, illas duas bothas, quæ sunt in fronte vici illius, qui tendit de Ecclesia Sancti Johannis Baptiste, versus Castellum de Pert, in orientali parte,

Digitized by Google

contra domum Andræ filii Simonis; videlicet, illas duas bothas versus aquilonem).

"To be held and retained for ever, freely, peaceably, fully, and honourably; rendering thence yearly to the Chamberlain of our Sovereign Lord, King of Scots, one pound of pepper at the feast of St Michael, in lieu of all service; and to the monks of Cupar, yearly, one half stone of wax, at the purification of the blessed Mary, in name of alms.

"And that this my donation may be ratified and incontrovertible, I have confirmed this present page by my seal. And as my seal is not valid, the common seal of the burgh of Perth is, at my desire, appended.

"Witnesses, Walter de Newton, and Henry de Abernitie, Knights; Galfrid de Perth, Clerk of our sovereign lord the King; Henry his son; Galfrid, Provost of Perth; Richard de Leycester; John, son of Lenna; David Jape; William de Dunde; James, son of James, son of Hutred; William Sper; Richard de Lenna, and many others."

"The date of this second charter cannot easily be ascertained by the names of the witnesses. William, King of Scots, is mentioned as dead. He died December 4. 1214, and was succeeded by his son Alexander II. who died July 8. 1249. It is ranked in the chartulary among those charters which were granted in the reign of Alexander II. It could not be granted very late in that reign, because Henry Bald, and Andrew, the son of Simon, who were living before the year 1199, were still alive. But Henry Bald, who

Digitized by Google

who had become a goldsmith, or banker, as the term anciently implied, seems to have been old, and preparing for death, by giving two of his shops in his tenement in Perth as alms to the monastery.

"Every one who compares these two charters, may see that no alteration of the town had taken place in the interval betwixt the year 1199 and the year 1225; which last-mentioned year may be reckoned as the probable date of the second charter: therefore that Boece's story of the utter desolation of Perth in the year 1210, is false.

"The castle stood directly north from the church; and, surrounding the church, was formerly a pretty spacious burying-ground. Notwithstanding any difference which may have happened in the wideness of the streets, the tenement described may easily be conceived by any who are acquainted with the town, as having consisted of a house and shops, at the south-east end or corner of what is now called Skinner's-street, and which was the way of communication betwixt the church and castle, the two principal buildings in the town.

"The two booths, or shops, granted to the abbey of Scone, are carefully mentioned as being those towards the north, or stretching northward, to distinguish them from any in the same tenement which might be stretching towards the east.

"3. The original charter which King William granted to the town of Perth, dated at Stirling, October 10. and which, by the names of the witnesses, is ascertained to have been given in the year 1210, is still extant.

Digitized by Google

"A translation has been circulated among some of the Burgesses: it does not make the smallest mention of any change of the name or of the situation of the town, which it certainly would have done if any such changes had happened. The King confirms the privileges which the burgh enjoyed in the time of his grandfather King David, who died in 1153, and adds some new privileges.

"He was holding his great council or parliament at Stirling, which, Fordun says, was to meet shortly after Michaelmas in 1210. The public writs were dated, as if granted on the day of the commencement of the parliament. The King, that he might be enabled to fulfil his treaty with King John of England, craved and obtained a subsidy of six thousand merks; of which large sum in those days the Barons agreed to pay ten thousand, and the Burrows six thousand. On that occasion, the burrow of Perth seems to have been rewarded with a very clear and particular charter of privileges.

"4. Still more to confute the story of Boece, there is a charter by Walter, son of Alan, one of the ancestors of the Lords of Ruthven, to the abbey of Scone. It appears, from the names of some of the witnesses, that it was granted in or before the year 1200. In this charter, the situation of Perth at the time is marked beyond all doubt, by a description of the road which led from Perth to Tibbermuir.

"I grant," says the above-named donor, "and by this my charter have confirmed to God, and to the church of the Holy Trinity, and of St Michael of Scone, and to the canons serving God, and to serve him

Digitized by Google

him there, that whole land which Suane, the son of Thor, my grandfather, gave to them in Tibbermore, according to its marches, viz. from the King's Well, on the street which comes from Perth, and leads to the foresaid village." (Scilicet, a fonte Regis, qui est super stratam quæ venit de Pert, et tendit in villam præfatam).

"The King's Well is about two miles west from Perth, and in the straight road to Tibbermuir. If Perth had then been situated two miles up the river, and on the north of the Almond, the road from it to Tibbermuir would have had a quite different direction, a great way to the north and west of the King's Well.

"Sir Robert Sibbald was much perplexed in his Treatise on the Roman Ports on the south side of the Tay. He found evidence that the Romans had a station, or colonial town, at Perth; but he had not taken the opportunities of fully confuting what Boece had said. Therefore, he supposes, that when Bertha was destroyed, the new town of Perth was built where the ruins of the old Roman station were.

"But it would have been better to have had recourse to his favourite hypothesis of the winter and summer camps, and to have supposed, that the station in the parish of Redgorton, two miles above Perth, had been the summer-camp, and an appendage of the colonial town.

"It may be proper farther to observe, that the kingdom was divided into parishes long before the time of William the Lion, and therefore long before the year 1210.

Digitized by Google

"The parish of Redgorton, in which, according to Boece, ancient Bertha was situated, is separated from the parish of Perth, not only by the Almond, but also by a part of the parish of Tibbermuir, which lies along the south side of the Almond, all the way to where that small river falls into the Tay.

"King David I. about the year 1126, either as from himself, or as confirming the gift made by his father Malcolm Canmore, granted to the abbey of Dunfermling, which had been founded by his father, the church and patronage tithes of the town and parish of Perth. I have seen the chartulary of that abbey. The abbot and monks continued to regulate what concerned their property in Perth; but there is no mention of any exchange having been made of the church or tithes, or of their having had any thing to do with the parish of Redgorton, or with the church or chapel of Luncarty, which has been annexed to it, which would not have been the case if Perth had formerly stood in that parish, and its church and tithes had been granted to the abbey."

It is then certain, that ancient Bertha occupied the same, or nearly the same ground, with modern Perth, and that in every period this city has been a place of considerable importance. The Kings of Scotland before James II. were crowned at Scone, and resided at Perth, as the metropolis of the nation. That monarch being educated and crowned at Edinburgh,

Digitized by Google

burgh, removed the parliament and courts of justice, but Perth retained its priority of rank till the 22d James III. 1482. But, although distinguished in history as the theatre of many great national transactions, yet few of the records of these convey any information of a local nature. The following Memoranda are confessedly imperfect.

1160.

"The attachment of Malcolm IV. to the King of England excited the jealousy of the Scots. They imagined that the national independency was in hazard from the English councils. They sent a solemn deputation into France, whither their sovereign had gone to fight under the banners of Henry II. and to be invested by him with the honours of knighthood. They reproached him in bold language, and declared "they would not have Henry to rule over them." Malcolm hasting home, assembled his parliament at Perth. Ferquhard, Earl of Strathern, and five other Earls, conspired to seize the person of their sovereign. They assaulted the tower in which he had sought refuge, but were repulsed. The clergy judiciously interposed, and wrought a speedy reconciliation between the King and his people *."

1201.

A national council was holden at Perth in December, by John de Salerus, Cardinal Legate, in which canons were made.

* Hailes's Annals.

Digitized by Google

1206.

A national council, called in the original writ "Synodis Generalis," holden at Perth in April. *Ex charta penes vicecomitem de Arbuthnot.*

1210.

This was the year of the great inundation, which we have already mentioned as having given rise to Boece's mistatement respecting the ancient situation of Perth. The united waters of the Tay and Almond appear to have risen to a most extraordinary height. In their progress they carried away a great part of the Muirtown Brae, and inundated Perth so completely, that not only small boats, but ships of considerable burthen sailed on the streets *. But, however terrible this flood must have been, there is no reason to suppose that the town was nearly destroyed †.

1211.

A national council was holden at Perth, by William

* Fordun.

† "It was to guard the town against dangerous inundations that the streets were raised from time to time. Old streets, well paved, are found six, eight, or ten feet below the present surface. Subterraneous apartments sometimes have been discovered. Within these twenty years, some masons came to what they reckoned to have been a stable or cow-house. They could not, with any certainty, discern the walls, which probably had been originally of turf or clay, but they found four stakes, and also a manger, wholly and very neatly wrought of the twigs of trees; a kind of work which was much practised by the ancient Britons. According to the course of natural causes, the bed of the river must also have been considerably raised."—Scott's Stat. Account.

Digitized by Google

liam Bishop of St Andrew's, Walton Bishop of Glasgow, and the other Bishops of Scotland.

1221.

James, Canon of St Victor at Paris, Penitentiary of the Pope, and Legate to Scotland, held a national council of all the prelates of Scotland, at Perth, during four days, in the month of February *.

In the Chartulary of Moray is an account of another national council, indicted to be holden *in domo fratrum prædicatorum de Perth*, on Wednesday before the feast of St Luke, in October, but without the date of the year; only it must have been some years after A. D. 1230, when the Black Friars first came into Scotland. However, in this act we have the form of the Bishop Conservator, his indicting or convocating the yearly council, *authoritate conservatoria*, as the act bears, by a letter to each bishop, charging him to give his presence at such a place (which was commonly the convent of the Black Friars at Perth), on such a day, with continuation of days; together with the abbots and priors, the proctors of chapters, colleges, and convents of his diocese, there to treat of the reformation of the state of the church, &c.

1231.

A national council was held at Perth †.

1269.

* Fordun. † Fordun.

Digitized by Google

1269.

Pope Clement III. required the Scottish clergy to pay a tenth of their benefices to the King of England, as an aid for an intended crusade. In consequence of the Pope's grant, Henry III. attempted to levy the tenths in Scotland. The Scottish clergy appealed to Rome. To shew that they were as independent of the English Legate as of England, they assembled in a provincial council at Perth. A bishop of their own presided, and canons of their own were enacted, which remained in force till the Reformation. They are preserved, with those of the council of 1212, in the chartulary of Aberdeen, and are the only thing that can deserve the title of the *ancient Ecclesiastical Code of Scotland* *.

1278.

A national council was held at Perth †.

1275.

A national council held at Perth, in presence of Bagimond, the Pope's nuncio, who came to collect the taxation of all benefices, and settled a roll of these taxations, that served for a rule in following times, to which our acts of parliament refer ‡.

1280.

A national council held at the Black Friars of Perth, on Monday after St Bartholomew's day in August,

* Hailes's Annals. † Fordun. ‡ Ib.

Digitized by Google

gust, mentioned in a sentence of Archibald, Bishop of Moray, this year *.

1298.

After the unfortunate battle of Falkirk, Edward I. reduced all the fortresses in Scotland, but fortified Perth, and rebuilt the walls in the strongest manner. It was often the residence of his deputies, and his son Edward lived here some years.

1312.

"Robert Bruce, upon his return from his expedition into England, again turned himself to the conquest of his castles, and the expulsion of the English garrisons. Perth, one of the strongest fortified places in Scotland, had been powerfully garrisoned by the English, immediately before the battle of Methven. Although repeatedly assailed by the Brucians since their first successes in the north, it had still withstood all their efforts, unassisted as these were by the military engines then in use for battering or scaling the walls, and for discharging stones and other missile weapons at sieges. In the end, then, of this year of his first expedition into England, Bruce again invested the town of Perth with the most powerful force that he could muster. For a considerable time he pressed the siege with the utmost vigour, but still ineffectually, because he wanted the necessary engines; and because the garrison, and the rest of the people within the town, were too vigilant to be surprised by stratagem. Again he was reluctantly obliged to withdraw his

* Chart. vet. Eccles. Morav.—Advocates' Library.

Digitized by Google

his troops, and to retire, lest famine, and the diseases occasioned by long encampment on low marshy ground, in an inclement eason, should cut off the flower of those brave and faithful followers, by whose aid he had now nearly reconquered Scotland. But no supplies came from England to relieve or reinforce the garrison of Perth. Bruce would not desist from his purpose, or suffer this single-walled town for ever to baffle his efforts. Providing himself with scaling ladders, and such other instruments as he could find, he speedily renewed the siege, at a time when those within the town were pleasing themselves with the persuasion, that they were inclosed within impregnable walls, and had no future siege to fear. He chose a dark night, and, in its silence, taking a chosen band, conducted them himself in person, partly wading, partly swimming, across a ditch, deep, broad, and full of water, that surrounded the walls. The rest were animated on this, as on many other occasions, by the example of the daring valour with which the King exposed himself the foremost to danger. The contest among them was, who should first cross the ditch, and, by the scaling ladders which they had carried with them, mount the walls! This gallant and perilous enterprize succeeded. The King himself was the second to enter the town. The garrison and the townsmen were easily overpowered. In the castle, and in the stores of the merchants, a considerable booty was found of those things which the captors wanted the most for the relief of their own necessities. The slaughter of the vanquished was humanely stayed as soon as the resistance ceased. The houses were burnt,

Digitized by Google

burnt, and the walls and fortifications levelled with the ground. By this happy atchievement, all Perthshire and Strathearn were freed from servitude to the English, and reduced under the authority of King Robert *".

1321.

A national council, holden at Perth in July, mentioned in the rolls of King Robert I. *Ex Collect. Com. de Panmure*, No. lxxx. p. 65.

1332.

" Edward Balliol, after his success at the battle of Duplin, had taken possession of Perth, and was crowned at Scone. Immediately after his coronation he returned southward, to open a communication with the English marches, and a party of the loyal adherents to the interests of David Bruce, concerted a sudden enterprize against the slender garrison left by the usurper in the town of Perth. Its temporary fortifications were unfit to resist a siege: It was garrisoned by few else beside the Earl of Fife, who, from the prisoner, had become the partizan of Balliol, with his family and vassals. By stratagem, however, probably, rather than by regular assault, it was quickly taken by the besiegers †".

1339.

" In the beginning of the year 1339, after the death of the Regent, Andrew Murray, the regency was conferred on Robert, the Lord High Steward, afterwards

* Heron's Hist. Scot. † Ibid.

Digitized by Google

terwards King, who was but a youth. He resolved to distinguish himself by opening the siege of Perth, which Edward and his engineers had fortified with uncommon skill, and had placed in it an excellent garrison. The defence they made for three months was so brave, that the High Steward was about to raise the siege, when Douglas, Lord Lidsdale, arrived from France, whither he was sent on an embassy to David Bruce, and brought with him five (Fordun says two) ships, with a supply of men and provisions. The siege was renewed with vigour. Douglas was wounded in the leg by the shot of a cross-bow, while he was going to the escalade. When the siege had lasted four months, and was like to have continued longer, the Earl of Ross, by digging of mines, drew away the water, and dried up the fosses and ditches, so that the soldiers, approaching the walls on dry ground, beat off the defenders with arrows and darts shot out of engines made for that purpose. The Governor, Sir Thomas Ochtred, with his garrison, seeing the city untenable, surrendered, having capitulated for the safety of their lives and estates. Some marched off by land, and others were provided with shipping to England. Douglas rewarded the French very liberally, and sent them back into France well pleased. He caused also to be restored to Hugh Hambel, their commander, one of the best of his ships, which was taken by the English during the siege. Hambel had adventured to approach the town with his ships, to give an assault, one of them was taken, and now restored *."

1374.

* Cant.

Digitized by Google

1374.

Provost—John Mercer.

Bailies—Andrew Mercer, his son, John Scot, Thomas Rhynd, John Dugude.

1420.

A national council holden 16th July, at the Black Friars of Perth, by William, Bishop of Dumblane, conservator, and, in that quality, president of the council. There is an act of this council concerning the quotes of testament, but the act is more considerable, because it describes the form of the council, which is there called *Synodis provincialis, et concilium generale regni Scotiæ*, with the names of the bishops present in person, or by procurator. Among other things, it appears that the decrees or statutes were sealed by all the bishops seals. This act is in the original chartulary of Brechin, *penes Comitem de Panmure*, fol. 62.

1443.

In the reign of James II. John Gormac, of Athol, captain of a band of robbers, who laid all the country around him under contribution, attacked Sir William Ruthven, sheriff of Perth, at the head of his guards, while leading a thief from Athol to the gallows. A sharp skirmish began. Gormac, with thirty of his followers, were slain; the rest fled to the mountains. After this, the citizens, by an act of council, were ordered to keep the walls in repair next to their houses. James II. after the murder of his father at the

Digitized by Google

the Black Friars monastery, gave also an order to cause the walls of Perth to be repaired.

1457.

A national council held at Perth, in which, among other acts, a declaration was made concerning the King's right of nomination to benefices, during the vacancies of bishopricks, &c.—Records of parliament, James III. fol. 75.

1459.

A national council holden in July at Perth, by Thomas, Bishop of Aberdeen, conservator, and, in that quality, president of the council, in which the aforesaid declaration was renewed.—Records of parliament as above.

Downwards to 1774, we copy from Mr Cant, with some little omissions, and an occasional trifling alteration of his arrangement.

1465.

Provost—Andrew Chartres *.

Bailies—David Boswel, Alexander Scot, Robert Blair, Humphry Murray.

Dean of Guild—John Lyn.

1467.

* Provost Chartres' progenitor was a Frenchman, a faithful friend of Wallace, who settled in this country, and had considerable property in this neighbourhood.

Digitized by Google

1467.

Provost—Andrew Chartres.

Bailies—Robert Donyng, Gilbert Brown, Robert Blair, Humphry Murray.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Bunch.

1468.

Provost—Andrew Chartres.

Bailies—Gilbert Brown, John Lyn, Gilbert Rattray, Robert Blair.

1469.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---Gilbert Brown, John Lyn, John Rattray, Robert Mercer.

1470.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---Robert Mercer, Robert Blair, Robert Logie, John Rattray.

Dean of Guild---Robert Donyng.

1471.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---Alexander Bunch, John Greig, John Haddington, Walter Ireland.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Currier.

1472.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---Robert Blair, John Rattray, Alexander Scott, Robert Bonkill.

Dean of Guild---Robert Mercer.

1473.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---Robert Mercer, Robert Logie, John Lyn, James Govan.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---Andrew Currier.

1474.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---John Bunch, John Greig, Robert Blair, Alexander Scott.

Dean of Guild---John Rattray.

1475.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---John Lyn, Patrick Welliss, Gilbert Chartres, Robert Logie.

Dean of Guild---Robert Mercer.

1476.

Provost---Alexander Bunch.

Bailies---John Haddington, William Chalmers, Humphry Murray, Dionysius Cavers.

Dean of Guild---John Bunch.

1477.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---John Haddington, John Tyrie, Thomas Pebles, Alan Cameron.

Dean of Guild---Humphry Murray.

1478.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---John Haddington, Alan Cameron, David West, Humphry Murray.

Dean of Guild---John Bunch.

1479.

Provost---Thomas Pebles.

Bailies---John Bunch, Alan Cameron, David West, Robert Bonkill.

Dean of Guild---Humphry Murray.

1480.

Digitized by Google

1480.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---John Rattray, Robert Ross, Gilbert Chartres, John Haddington.

Dean of Guild---Alan Cameron.

1481.

Provost---Robert Mercer.

Bailies---Patrick Wellis, Alan Cameron, Alexander Scott, John Lyn.

Dean of Guild---John Haddington.

1482.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---Gilbert Chartres, John Rattray, John Haddington, David West.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Currier.

1483.

Provost---Robert Mercer.

Bailies---Patrick Wellis, Walter Ireland, Robert Blair, John Lyn.

Dean of Guild---John Haddington.

1484.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---James Drummond, John Bunch, John Rattray, John Haddington.

Dean of Guild---Walter Ireland.

1485.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---Henry Bruson, Humphry Murray, Walter Ireland, Robert Blair.

Dean of Guild---Gilbert Chartres.

1486.

Provost---Robert Mercer.

Digitized by Google

Bailies---John Rattray, Patrick Chartres, John Haddington, David West.

Dean of Guild---James Drummond.

1487.

Provost---Thomas Pebles.

Bailies---Humphry Murray, Walter Ireland, Patrick Chartres,, John Bunch.

Dean of Guild---Gilbert Chartres.

1488.

Provost---Robert Mercer.

Bailies---Henry Bruson, Walter Oliphant, Robert Chalmers, Robert Blair.

Dean of Guild---David West.

1489.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---Walter Ireland, Patrick Chartres, Robert Ross, John Bunch.

Dean of Guild---James Drummond.

1490.

Provost---Robert Mercer.

Bailies---Henry Bruson, Humphry Murray, Gilbert Chartres, Robert Chalmers.

Dean of Guild---Patrick Wellis.

1491.

Provost---Andrew Chartres.

Bailies---Patrick Chartres, Walter Ireland, John Rattray, Walter Oliphant.

Dean of Guild---Humphry Murray.

1492.

Provost---Robert Donyng.

Bailies---Henry Bruson, Humphry Murray, John Bunch, Andrew Bunch.

Dean

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---Gilbert Chartres.

1493.

Provost---Robert Mercer.

Bailies---Walter Ireland, Patrick Chartres, Walter Oliphant, Alexander Tyrie.

Dean of Guild---Henry Bruson.

1494.

Provost—Walter Ireland.

Bailies—Humphry Murray, Gilbert Chartres, John Rattray, Andrew Bunch.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Tyrie.

1495.

Provost—Andrew Chartres.

Bailies—Henry Bruson, Walter Oliphant, James Drummond, Alexander Tyrie.

Dean of Guild—Gilbert Chartres.

1496.

Provost—Robert Mercer.

Bailies—Gilbert Chartres, John Bunch, John Rattray, Andrew Bunch.

Dean of Guild—James Drummond.

1497.

Provost—Andrew Chartres.

Bailies—James Drummond, Alexander Tyrie, Walter Oliphant, Humphry Murray.

Dean of Guild—Gilbert Chartres.

1498.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—Gilbert Chartres, John Donyng, John Bunch, John Rattray.

1499.

Provost—Andrew Chartres.

Digitized by Google

Bailies—Alexander Tyrie, Walter Oliphant, John Chartres, Humphry Murray.

Dean of Guild—Gilbert Chartres.

1500.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—John Bruson, John Donyng, Walter Oliphant, Robert Bonkyll.

Dean of Guild—Gilbert Chartres.

1501.

Provost—Robert Mercer.

Bailies—John Chartres, John Rattray, Andrew Bunch, Alexander Tyrie.

Dean of Guild—John Bruson.

1502.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—William Crawfurd, John Armour, Thomas Ramsay, Andrew Bunch.

Dean of Guild—John Chartres.

1503.

Provost—Andrew Chartres.

Bailies—John Chartres, Andrew Bunch, Robert Bonkill, John Marshall.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Tyrie.

1504.

Provost—Robert Mercer.

Bailies—James Moncreif, William Cheap, William Crawfurd, John Armour.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

1505.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—John Bruson, Andrew Bunch, Robert Bonkill, Thomas Ramsay.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Bunch, junior.

1506.

Digitized by Google

1506.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—John Donyng, Alexander Blair, John Marshall, John Mankson.

Dean of Guild—Robert Bonkill.

1507.

Provost—John Chartres.

Bailies—Andrew Bunch, Robert Bonkill, Robert Tyrie, Thomas Ramsay.

Dean of Guild—John Bruson.

1508.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—Alexander Blair, John Mackſon, John Armour, John Marshall.

Dean of Guild—Robert Bonkill.

1509.

Provost—John Chartres.

Bailies—John Donyng, Donald Robertson, Robert Tyrie, Thomas Ramsay.

Dean of Guild—Robert Bonkill.

1510.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Bailies—Alexander Blair, Robert Bonkill, William Cheap, John Armour.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

1511.

Provost—Alexander Tyre of Busbie.

Bailies—John Mackison, Robert Tyrie, Thomas Ramsay, John Pebles.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Blair.

1512.

Provost—Patrick Wellis.

Digitized by Google

Bailies—Andrew Bunch, Robert Bonkill, John Marshall, David Jackson.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

1513.

Provost—Andrew Bunch.

Bailies—William Cheap, Robert Tyrie, John Pebles, William Tod.

This year King James IV. issued a proclamation, dated Edinburgh, the 17th January, and 25th of his reign, addressed to the Magistrates, to use their diligence and endeavour to prevent the plague.

1514.

Provost—Alexander Blair.

Bailies—John Donyng, Robert Bonkill, John Marshall, Patrick Kincraigie.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

1515.

Provost—John Donyng.

Bailies—William Haldane, Thomas Ramsay, Henry Malcolm, John Marshall.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

1516.

Provost—John Donyng.

Bailies—Alexander M'Breck, Robert Tyrie, Alexander Chalmer, Robert Marshall.

Dean of Guild and Treasurer—John Armour.

1517.

Provost—Alexander Blair.

Bailies—Henry Malcolm, William Tod, Thomas Ramsay, Patrick Kincraigie.

Dean of Guild and Treasurer—John Armour.

1518.

Digitized by Google

1518.

Provost—Alexander Blair.

Bailies—Alexander Chalmers, William Haldane, George Mercer, Andrew Blinsile.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

Treasurer—Alexander Tyrie.

1519.

Provost—Andrew Bunch.

Bailies—Patrick Chartres, Henry Malcolm, Thomas Ramsay, William Tod.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

Treasurer—Robert Bonkill.

1520.

Provost—Alexander Blair.

Bailies—Alexander Chalmers, William Haldane, Andrew Bunch junior, John Kinglassie.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

Treasurer—Robert Bonkill.

1521.

Provost—Patrick Chartres of Cuthilgowrdy.

Bailies—Constantine Arthur, George Mercer, Thomas Ramsay, Henry Malcolm.

Dean of Guild—Alexander M'Breck.

Treasurer—John Armour.

1522.

Provost—Patrick Chartres.

Bailies—William Patullo, Andrew Blackwood, John Robertson, Alexander Chalmers.

Dean of Guild—Alexander M'Breck.

Treasurer—John Armour.

1523.

Provost—Patrick Chartres.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies—William Patullo, Andrew Blackwood, John Robertson, Alexander Chalmers.

Dean of Guild—Alexander M'Breck.

Treasurer—Henry Malcolm.

On the 13th April, Alexander Chalmers, depute-sheriff within the burgh, by an assize of seventeen burgesses, found Margaret Lockhart guilty of stealing from John Ramsay's wife a silver belt and pot, and proved a known thief. She was decerned to be drowned under the water till she be dead. This is the first instance we have recorded of the exercise of the sheriff's power within the burgh, yet the sheriffship was granted by Robert III. the fifth year of his reign.

1524.

Provost—Alexander M'Breck.

Bailies—John Chartres, John Chrystison, Henry Malcolm, Thomas Ramsay.

Dean of Guild—William Patullo.

Treasurer—Henry Malcolm.

Provost M'Breck, sheriff, by the verdict of the following assize, Alexander Chalmers, John Mackison, James Bruson, John Piper, John Pebles, David Murray, Thomas Flemyng, John Dundee, Robert Campeon, Robert Robertson, George Patullo, Laurence Blackwood, John Ross, Alexander Sharp, and Andrew Barbour, condemned to be hanged on the gallows, and doom given thereon; John Hutchison, for breaking proclamation made upon him, banished this burgh never to return, under pain of death, and for the theftous stealing certain wool apprehended with him, *hand havand*, and for a known thief. Also

John

Digitized by Google

John Pearson for stealing two cows, which he sold to Halkerston the flesher, and for a known thief.

Feb. 6. The same sheriff, by an assize of fifteen men, convicted and condemned to be hanged on the gallows, John Brown, for stealing a cow, and *tane havand* therewith, stolen by him from William Williamson, in Drumcawan, east from Falkland, and for a common thief.

May 25. The same sheriff, by an assize of fifteen, convicted and condemned to be hanged on the gallows, John Butcher, for stealing a gray mare, *tane hand havand*, and for a common thief.

1525.

Provost and Sheriff—Patrick Chartres.

Bailies—Andrew Blackwood, John Robertson, Walter Chaip, Thomas Ramsay.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

Treasurer—Henry Malcolm.

1526.

Provost and Sheriff—Alexander Blair, senior.

Bailies—John Chrystison, Henry Malcolm, William Haldan, James Bruson.

Dean of Guild—John Armour.

Treasurer—John Mackison.

1527.

Provost and Sheriff—Patrick Chartres.

Bailies—Andrew Blackwood, Thomas Ramsay, Alexander Chalmers, John Ramsay.

Dean of Guild—William Patullo.

Treasurer—James Bruson.

1528.

Provost and Sheriff—John Chartres.

Bailies—Alexander Chalmers, Alexander Scrymzeour, Alexander Bunch, Alexander Blair.

Dean

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—Andrew Bunch.

Treasurer—James Bruson.

1529.

Provost and Sheriff—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Thomas Ramsay, John Robertson, Walter Ruthven, John Pebles.

Dean of Guild—John Mackison.

Treasurer—Walter Cheap.

John Pebles, Bailie, on the 9th of October, abjured his craft of Baxter, and was to attend none of their courts in all time coming.

1530.

Provost and Sheriff—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Lindsay, Alexander Blair junior, Thomas Flemyng, Oliver Maxton.

Dean of Guild—John Mackison.

Treasurer—Walter Cheap.

1531.

This year produced great tumult and confusion; there was a controverted election.

Provost—John Donyng.

Bailies—Alexander Lindsay, Thomas Flemyng, Oliver Maxton, and John Balneavis, *alias* Pyper, a butcher.

No Treasurer nor Dean of Guild appears.

A new election was made as follows, viz.

Provost and Sheriff—Alexander Blair senior.

Bailies—David Anderson, George Flemyng, Adam Ramsay, Alexander Bunch.

Treasurer—John Pebles.

These Magistrates were confirmed at Edinburgh, and the others declared intruders. It appears that both

Digitized by Google

both were afterwards set aside, and Lord Ruthven, with the Bailies elected the former year, were reponed.

30th September, 1532.

Provost and Sheriff---Oliver Maxton of Drumgreen.

Bailies---Adam Ramsay, David Drummond, William Geddes, Andrew Blackwood.

Dean of Guild---John Mackison.

7th October, 1533.

Provost and Sheriff---Oliver Maxton.

Bailies---Alexander Lindsay, John Oliphant, Thomas Flemyng, Andrew Rhind.

Dean of Guild---John Chrystison.

Treasurer---John Bruson.

1534.

This year there was a controverted election. Oliver Maxwell and his party were turned out by a decree of the Lords of Council and Session, and the following were declared lawfully elected.

Provost and Sheriff---Alexander Blair senior.

Bailies---Walter Bruson, Henry Malcolm, Thomas Jamison, John Balneavis, *alias* Pyper.

Dean of Guild---John Chrystison.

Treasurer---John Bruson.

5th October, 1535.

Provost and Sheriff---John Chrystison.

Bailies---Alexander Lindsay, Adam Ramsay, Thomas Flemyng, John Bruson.

Dean of Guild---William Patullo.

Treasurer---John Mackison.

2d October, 1536.

Provost and Sheriff---John Chrystison.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies---Henry Malcolm, David Blinsel, Thomas Jamison, William Moneypenny.

Dean of Guild---William Patullo.

Treasurer---Adam Ramsay.

1st October, 1537.

Provost and Sheriff---William Patullo.

Bailies---Duncan Omey, Alexander Blair, Andrew Blackwood, John Robertson.

Dean of Guild---Adam Ramsay.

Treasurer---Henry Malcolm.

30th September, 1538.

Provost and Sheriff---John Chartres of Kinfauns.

Bailies---John Bruson, James Blinshel, Thomas Jamison, Alexander Bunch.

Dean of Guild---William Patullo.

Treasurer---Henry Malcolm.

N. B. It appears that there was another controverted election this year. The Magistrates here recorded are taken from the town's records in the Council-books; but, in an old manuscript, the above Magistrates are not mentioned. Instead of them we have

Provost and Sheriff---John Donyng.

Bailies---John Bruson, Andrew Blackwood, Alexander Bunch, John Robertson.

Dean of Guild---John Mackison.

In the town-court of the 13th of January after, John Donyng is Provost; Bruson, Blackwood, and Robertson, are the Bailies; and in the court, 14th April, Donyng is Provost, and John Robertson is Bailie.

5th October, 1539.

Provost and Sheriff---Oliver Maxton.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies---Alexander Lindsay, Thomas Flemyng, Andrew Rhynd, William Moneypenny.

Dean of Guild---Adam Ramsay.

Treasurer---Henry Malcolm.

This year an order was issued by the King, dated at Stirling the 25th of March, and 27th of his reign, authorising them to cleanse the town of the plague.

4th October, 1540.

Provost and Sheriff---Oliver Maxton.

Bailies---Henry Malcolm, John Maxwell, John Mitchell, Patrick Adamson.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Flemyng.

Treasurer----Alexander Lindsay.

October 3. 1541.

Provost and Sheriff---Oliver Maxton.

Bailies---John Maxwell, Henry Malcolm, John Mitchell, Patrick Adamson.

Dean of Guild---Adam Ramsay.

Treasurer---Alexander Lindsay.

2d October, 1542.

By express command of the King were chosen,

Provost and Sheriff—Oliver Maxton.

Bailies---Andrew Rhind, Andrew Blackwood, Thomas Jamison, Walter Chaip.

Dean of Guild---John Mitchell.

Treasurer---Alexander Lindsay.

This year there was a violent contention betwixt two parties, who both had complained to the King. The council was summoned to meet at the command of our Sovereign Lord's charge, and writing under his subscription, directed to the council, neighbours, and

Digitized by Google

and community of the said burgh, the tenor whereof follows:

"Council, neighbours, and communitie of our burgh of Perth, we greet you well, for sa meikle as we hear there is appearand contention amangis zou, about the election of zour provest; our will is herefor, and we charge zou to convene zour auld counsail and new and best neighbouris, and elect ane gude and common man to your provest, for the well of our burgh, and as tyte (well) John Chrystisone, as any others, and that we hear na cummir nor trouble heruntill. Subscribit with our hand, at Falkland, the sixt da of October, and of our reign the 20 zeir, in absence of our signet."

The whilk charge being openly read the 9th of October, thai having choisit and electit John Chrystisone provest and sheriff of the said burgh for this instant year, conform to the laws and acts of parliament made upon chusing officers within burghs, and at our Sovereigne Lord's request and charge foresaid, choisit the said John Chrystisone provest and sheriff as said is, and therefor in judgment gave his aith for ministration of justice, the tolbooth being almost full of the comunitie and neighbours for the time contentand, and all in ane voice to the said John's election for an common man.

August 1st, 1543. The governour issues an order to the provest, bailies, and community, thus:

"We understand, that before our letters were granted to our cousin and counsellor Lord Ruthven, that ye should not obey our lovits John Chartres of Couthilgourdy, and Thomas Chartres of Kinfawns. Our

Digitized by Google

Our will is therefor, and also charges you to obey our said lovits John and Thomas in all votes, and no other person or persons, notwithstanding our other letters given in the contrary, whilk be thir presents we discharge simpliciter, and the said letters impetrate, be our cousin Lord Ruthven, be the tenor hereof we decern, to have na effect, and discharges the same under our hand, and under our signet, at Edinburgh, 1st August, 1543."

1st October, 1543.

Provost---John Chartres.

Bailies---Walter Bruson, Alexander Bunch, John Maxwell, James Rhind.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Rhind.

26th January, 1543. By appointment of the governor.

Provost---Mr Alexander M'Breck.

Bailies---Walter Bruson, Alexander Bunch, John Maxwell, Andrew Robertson.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Flemyng.

The two last appointed by the provost.

"The town-council met the 17th October: Whilk day Walter Bruson, bailie, elected by the councel at Michaelmas, hes transferrit all election and titil that he hes, or ma haif, for this instant zeir, to the office of bailzierie of the burgh of Perth, in the hands of an honourable man, John Chartris, provest of the said burgh, sua that the said provest ma dispone thereupon laughfully at his own pleasour, as he thinks best and expedient for the well of the said burgh; quhilk translation wes made in the said provest's hands, in presence of the said bailzies and councel, which wes done be the said Walter Bruson, at the

Digitized by Google

consent of the said bailzies and councel. Whilk da the said provest has given his consent and election to Gilbert Rettray of the bailziery for this instant zeir, wha hes sworn *de fideli administratione in officio.*

"N. B. Gilbert Rattray was a goldsmith, and the first trades bailie."

26th January, 1543. "The whilk day John Chartres beand be my lord governor and lords of secret counsale for certane causes and considerations movane them, dischargit of the office of provestrie, and Mr Alexander M'Breck be the said lord governor and lords of secret counsale, thought qualifiet and convenientist to the said office. The said Mr Alexander, at the command of the said lord governor and lords of secret counsale, was chosen provest and sherif of the burgh of Perth, and gaif his aith in judgment for faithful ministration of justice."

5th February, 1543. "Whilk day Maister Alexander MacBreck, provest of the burgh of Perth, haifand power of my lord governor to imput and decern bailzies and all uther officiars within the said burgh, the said provest, with the avise of the counsale and decains of crafts, choisit Thomas Flemyng, dean of gild of the same burgh, and Andro Robertson, bailie, in the place of Andro Rhind, dean of gild, and James Rhind his brother, ane of the bailzies, becaus for certain causes and considerations movand my lord governor, (Hamilton, Earl of Arran), and lords of the secret counsale, wer wardit, quhilk dean of gild and bailzie forsaid gaif their aith for faithful ministration of justice."

15th April, 1544. "Proclamation by Mary, Queen of Scots, the 2d of her reign, directit to the sherifs

Digitized by Google

sheriffs of Perth, Forfar, and Fyffe, to the provest, aldermen, and bailies of Perth, Dundee, Brechin, and Montrose, against Thomas Chartres of Kinfauns, John Chartres of Couthilgourdie, and their accomplices, to the number of eighty persons, denouncing them rebels, and commanding to apprehend and bring them to justice."

7th October, 1544.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Blair, Alexander Bunch, Andrew Robertson, Dionysius Cavers, for the Crafts.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Lindsay.

Treasurer---John Elder.

26th of January following, Lord Ruthven was turned out by the Regent, at the instigation of the Cardinal, and his office was given to John Chartres, Provost and Sheriff, who was never received. Lord Ruthven's party prevailed.

" This was a busie year. Thomas Flemyng, late dean of gild, for himself, bailzies, councel, and crafts expatiand, that the Spy Tower was put in their keeping by the governor and lords of secret counsale, under great pains to this present day, whilk was lauchfully done, and the keys thereof was delivert to Mr Alexander M'Breck, provest for that time, protestand that what followed thereupon in time coming prejudgit theme nocht, nor turn to them in prejudice. Whilk day John Rosse of Craigie deliverit to them the keys of the Spy Tower, to the hands of Mr Alexder M'Breck, provest for that time, protestand that he was relievit from his obligation given for keeping of the said tower, and what that followit thereupon turnit to him na prejudice.

Digitized by Google

"Whilk day Adam Ramsay, for himself and the laive of the merchandis and brether of gild of this burgh, protestit that the administration of Dionysius Cavers, goldsmith, in office of bailzierie, not electit nor chosen by them, hurt not their privilege in time to come." This protestation was continued by the dean of gild annually for many years, which they at last gave up."

Cardinal Bethune, in the last convention, having obtained an act in favour of the bishops and clergy, to prosecute and punish heretics to death, came in January this year to Perth, with the regent, Hamilton, Earl of Arran, who was a weak man.

Friar Spence accused Robert Lamb, William Anderson, James Ronald, James Hunter, James Finlayson, and Helen Stark, spouse to Robert Lamb. Lamb and his wife were accused for interrupting Spence in a sermon, in which he taught that there was no salvation without intercession and prayers to the saints. They confessed the charge, declaring that it was the duty of every one who knows the truth to bear testimony to it, and not suffer people to be abused with false doctrine, as that was. Anderson, Finlayson, and Ronald, were indicted for nailing two rams horns to St Francis' head, putting a cow's rump to his tail, and eating a goose on All-Hallow Even.

Hunter, a butcher, simple, and unlearned, was charged with haunting the company of these heretics.

Helen Stark was further charged with refusing to pray to the Virgin Mary when in child-birth, and saying that she would only pray to God in the name of Jesus Christ.

They were all imprisoned in the Spy Tower, being found

Digitized by Google

found guilty, and condemned. Great intercession was made to the Regent for them, who promised that they should not be hurt. The citizens, who were in a tumult, relying on the promise of Arran, dispersed, and went peaceably home. The Cardinal, who had the Regent in his power, had taken his measures. Determined to make an example of these heretics, he brought them forth next day to the gibbet, January 25. being St Paul's day, and feasted his eyes from the windows of the Spy Tower with their execution. The men were hanged, and Helen Stark was drowned.

Robert Lamb, at the foot of the ladder, made a pathetic exhortation to the people, beseeching them to fear God, and forsake the leaven of Popish abominations. Janet Stark earnestly desired to die with her husband, but her request was refused; however, they permitted her to accompany him to the place of execution. In the way, she exhorted him to constancy in the cause of Christ; and, as she parted with him, said, "Husband, be glad, we have lived together many joyful days, and this day of our death we ought to esteem the most joyful of them all, for we shall have joy for ever; therefore I will not bid you good-night, for we shall shortly meet in the kingdom of heaven." As soon as the men were executed, the woman was taken to a pool of water hard by, where, having recommended her children to the charity of her neighbours, her sucking child being taken from her breast and given to a nurse, she was drowned, and died with great courage and comfort. Fox, the martyrologist, to whom we are obliged for this narrative, which was sent to him from Perth, adds further concerning Helen Stark, that, when she was demand-

Digitized by Google

ed why she would not pray to the holy Virgin when in the pains of childbirth, she replied, that if she had lived in the days of the Virgin, God might have looked to her humility and base estate in making her the mother of Christ; that there were no merits in the Virgin to procure her that honour, and to be preferred before other women; that it was God's free mercy that exalted her to this honour. There were several priests in the town who were hospitably entertained in the houses of these sufferers, whose interest and intercession were requested in their behalf, which they refused, and desired their death. The Regent was inclined to mercy, but the Cardinal and priests threatened to have him deposed, if he refused to sign the warrant for their execution.

The town was so enraged at this procedure, that no credit was given to the clergy afterwards. At this time Sir Henry Elder, John Elder, Walter Piper, and Laurence Puller, with some other citizens of Perth, were banished.

Before the Cardinal left Perth, the Regent, at his instigation, turned Lord Ruthven, provost of the town, out of his office, and gave it to John Chartres of Kinfauns, who was allied to Lord Gray. The Cardinal hated Lord Ruthven, because he was a favourer of the new religion, as it was called, and an opposer of his political measures; neither did Bethune love Gray, who was no friend of his. But his policy was to sow discord between these two Lords, to weaken their interest, which was against him; *divide et impera* was his maxim. This political stroke operated according to his wish. The citizens, who loved Lord Ruthven, refused to acknowledge Chartres for their

Digitized by Google

their Provost, and would not allow him to enter the town. He applied to his friend Lord Gray for assistance. Gray came with armed forces, and attacked the town from the bridge; but the tide did not answer Kinfauns' intentions, who was bringing up great guns by water to storm the open side of the town. Ruthven had purposely withdrawn his guards from the bridge into the neighbouring houses, that the bridge might seem to be left defenceless. Gray fell into this snare. He boldly marched up into the town; Ruthven suddenly sallied out, and gave him a brisk charge, which routed his party. In their flight through narrow passages to the bridge, the last were stopped by the foremost in the mouth of the passage, and in this confusion many were trodden to death, and sixty fell by the sword. Intelligence of this skirmish, and of Ruthven's victory, was brought to the Cardinal, which affected him, but he was well pleased that so many of his enemies were destroyed, for he despaired of ever making them his friends, therefore he rejoiced to see them destroy one another. This skirmish happened about sixteen years before the dawn of the Reformation. The seed was sown in Perth, which gradually sprung up, and was cherished under the protection of Lord Ruthven and his party, after the violent death of those witnesses for Christianity, in opposition to Popery, which verifies the truth of that ancient saying, *The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.* Divine Providence, which directs the counsels of great men, to pave a way for the Reformation, turned their wisdom against themselves.—This skirmish, which happened on the 22d July,

Digitized by Google

1544, established Lord Ruthven and his party in the town.

3d October, 1545.

Provost and Sheriff—Oliver Maxton.

Bailies—Adam Ramsay, Alexander Oliphant, George Johnston, for the Crafts, Adam Blackwood.

Treasurer—David Blinshal.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Lindsay.

4th October, 1546.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Nicholas Ruthven, James M'Breck, Alexander Blair, James Anderson, baxter.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Lindsay.

Treasurer—John Mitchell.

3d October, 1547.

Provost—Patrick Master of Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Bunch, Nichol Ruthven, Alexander Blair, Walter Piper, senior flesher.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Oliphant.

Treasurer—Alexander Lindsay.

1st October, 1548.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Bunch, Gilbert Rattray, goldsmith.——10th October. Nichol Ruthven, Alexander Lindsay.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Oliphant.

Treasurer—Alexander Lindsay.

30th September, 1549.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Thomas Flemyng, Nichol Ruthven, James M'Breck, John Marshall, skinner.

Dean of Guild—John Mitchell.

Treasurer—Alexander Lindsay.

Quhilk

Digitized by Google

Quhilk day it was statuted and ordained by the provost, bailies, council, and deacons, that the craftsman's bailie that shall happen to be chosen yearly in time to come, shall be chosen by the advice of the council allenarly.

10th October, 1550.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—James Chrystison, Andrew Rea, Alexander Bunch, George Johnston, skinner.

Dean of Guild—John Mitchell.

Treasurer—Blais Rolt.

5th October, 1551.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Thomas Flemyng, John Moncur, Alexander Ray, Gilbert Rattray, goldsmith,

Treasurer—Blais Rolt.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Adamson.

5th October, 1552.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—John Moncur, Thomas Flemyng, Alexander Ray, Gilbert Rattray, goldsmith.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Adamson.

Treasurer—Blais Rolt.

1553.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—John Moncur, Andrew Robertson, Alexander Bunch, George Johnston, skinner.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Adamson.

Treasurer—Alexander Tyrie.

1554.

Provost and Sheriff—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—William Ruthven of Balanden *, Patrick Murray,

* William Lord Ruthven of Balanden, was Lord William

Digitized by Google

Murray, James M'Breck, Walter Piper junior, flesher.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Adamson.

Treasurer—William Tyrie *.

1555.

Provost and Sheriff---Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—John Moncur, Andrew Robertson, William Tyrie, Alexander Bunch.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Tyrie.

Treasurer---Patrick Adamson.

Two members of the old council had died before the election of the new council. In their room were elected Alexander Oliphant and James Chrystisone, by the Guildside of the council. The old Deacons of Crafts were warned, but did not appear; therefore the council elected, in obedience to the late act of Parliament, of the 20th June, 1555, nine Visitors, instead of Deacons of Crafts, viz. Andrew Anderson, blacksmith, James Brown, skinner, Walter Stewart, baxter, James Kyd, flesher, Alexander Gent, cordiner, David Kinloch, taylor, Robert Basil, wright, Andrew Beny, webster, John Peter, wauker.

The act of parliament, dated Edinburgh, 10th June 1555,

Ruthven's son by a second marriage with Christian, daughter of Sir John Forbes of Pitsligo, who was ancestor to that noble person Sir Patrick Ruthven, governor of Ulm, and general of an army of Germans, who was by King Charles I. created Earl of Forth in Scotland, and Bramford in England. If we may credit Sir Thomas Urquhart's Antiquities, this great personage was so mere a soldier, that he could neither read nor write, and that James VI. was so mere a scholar, that he could neither fight by sea nor land.

* It is probable the Tyries were the Tyries of Drumkilbo, who afterwards were proprietors of Easbie, in Methven parish.

Digitized by Google

1555, is as follows: "Because it has been clearlie understood to the Queine's Grace, Regent of this realme, and three estatis of parliament, that the using of deykinis and men of craft within burghs hes bein kyth dangerous, and as thai haif usit themselfs in times by gaine, heis causit great troublis in burrows, commotions and rysings of the Quenis Lieges in diverse parts, and be the making of lieges and bands amang thaimselves, and betwixt burgh and burgh, quhilk deservis grait punishment.

"THAIRFORE the Quenis Grace, Regent, with avis of the estates foresaid, hes statut and ordainit, that there be no Dekyins chosen in time coming within the burgh; but the provest, bailzies, and counsale of the burgh, to choise the maist honest men of the craftes of guid conscience, and of everie craft, to visit their craft, that thai labour sufficiently, that the samen be sufficient stuff and wark, and thir persons be callit visitouris of their craft, and to be elected yeirly at Michaelmas, be the provest, bailzies, and counsale of burgh, and that thai thereafter gif their aith in judgement to visit leley and truely their said craft, without any power to make gathering or assembling of them to any privat convention or making of ony acts or statuts; but all craftsmen, in tym coming, to be under the provest, bailzies, and counsale, and their visitors, chosen, sworn, and admittit, to have voting and chuising of officiars and visitors; the thing is as the dekyins voted in use before, and that no craftsman bruik office within burgh in tym-coming, excepted twa of theme, maist honest and famous to be chosen zeirly upon the Counsale, and that thir twa to be an pairt of the auditoris zeirly of the compts of

Digitized by Google

of the common guide, according to the acts of parliament maid therupon of befoir; and whosoevir conveins in contra this act, to be punishit be warding of thair personis, be the space of an zeir, and tynsil of his freedom within burgh, and na mair to be receavit thereaftir as freeman unto the time he obtaine the favour and benevolence of the provest, bailzies, and counsale, quhair the falt is committit, and the thrid pairt of their guides to be eschetit, and applied to our Sovereine Lady's use, for thair contemption. Extracted by me, Mr James Macgill of Rankeilor neither, Clerk of the Rolls," &c.

Quhilk day compeirit Walter Pyper, and requirit at the provest and counsale, gif it was the use of befoir, that gif any of the counsale inlakit be Deth within the zeir, that another should be put thair instantly in his place, or the dai of the choisin of the provest, bailzies, and counsale in that zeir following, or not an day of their choising, and desirit thair ansir thairupon, and protestit, that because the said Alexander Oliphant and James Christison are but newlingis chosin this day, that thai haif na vote.——Quhilk dai the said Walter Pyper, after the production be him of ane writing of our Sovreign Lady Mary, Regent of Scotland, directit to the provest and counsale, praying them and exhorting them to chuse the craftsmen after thair auld use, without prejudice of the act of parliament, likas at mair lenth is containit in the same under her Grace's said writt and subscription, at Edinburgh, the penult dai of September 1555 zeiris; and hereaftir James Macbreck inquirit at the said Walter gif he would stand thereat, Quha answerit and said he would stand thereat; and therfoir the said

Digitized by Google

said James protestit, that he should have tint his freedom in pursuing thereof, becaus he purchast private wrytings, by the act of parliament, as he allegit.

Quhilk dai James Anderson protestit against the counsale, gif thai lettit not the bailzie substantious men for the Queinis valaw.

Quhilk day William Tyrie treasurir producit an act of parliament following, of the dait, at Edinburgh, holdin the 10 dai of Juin 1555 zeiris; and hereafter the said Walter Pyper acceptit the foresaid in that part, in so far as makes in voting visitors for the craftsmen.

Quhilk day James Macbreck protestit, that na craftsmen be admittit further than the act of parliament produced foresaid.

Quhilk day Walter Pyper protestit, that the said act tak na effect, because, as he allegit, the same is not ratified as yet.

Quhilk day Walter Pyper desirit of my lord provest his answir of the Queinis grace writing. The provest says he can give na answir till his speaking with the Queinis grace, and knaw hir pleasur therintil, becaus the merchands has produced an act of parliament for their part and their allegiance, and the craftsmen produced her Grace's writing of the date foresaid; therefore continues his answir of speaking with hir Grace. Quhilk day the said Walter Pyper protestit, what beis done in chusing of the bailzies and office men beis not prejudicial unto the craftsmen's voice, until the time the provest speak to the Queinis Grace.

30th September 1555. Quhilk day, John Bonar, sheriff and masar in that part, producit within the council-

Digitized by Google

council-house of the tolbooth of Perth, our Sovrein Lady's letters under her Grace's subscription and signet, and after the tenor and effect of the same, chargit an noble and mighty Lord, Patrick Lord Ruthven, provest, quhilk letters and charge the said provest with reverence obeyit, quhairof the tenor follows:

" Mary, by the grace of God, Queine of Scottis, to our lovits, Alexander Borthwick, John Bonar, Perth, Masar, our sherifs in that part, conjunctly and severally, specially constitute, *greeting*. For so meikle as it has been understood to our dearest mother, Mary, Queine Dowager and Regent of our realme, that in all tymes bypast the craftsmen of our burgh of Perth has usit, brukit, and exercit, offices and dignitys within the same without interruption or impediment, and that be reason they are the maist part of inhabitants thairof, and payis the greatest part of taxations and contributions quhair the same is imput thairto; and that the auld counsale, craftsmen, and dekanis, sould be electars and choisars of the bailzies and councel of the zeir following. Nevertheless, as our said dearest mother is informit, the bailzies, counsale, and other officiars of our said brugh, are chosin this instant zeir, be the adviss and consent of the provost thereof, craftsmen, dekanis, and an part of the auld counsales of the same, and by the auld laudable use and consuetude of burrows, practised of before in sic cases. For remeid of the quhilk, and our dearest mother willing to haif universal concord and unitie among the inhabitants of all our burrows, and specially within our said burrow of Perth, and to tak away all sic occasions as wad be the hinderance thairof.

' Our

Digitized by Google

" Our will is herefore, and we charge you straitly and commandis, that incontinent thir our letters seen, ye pass, and in our name and authority, command and charge the provest of our said burrow to convene the auld counsale of the same, quha was electit and chosin the zeir by past, togidder with the merchands, craftsmen, and dekanis, that had vote of before, and elect and choise bailzies, counsale, and oddir officiars, for the weil rule, guiding, and government, of our said burrow, and communitie thairof, this instant zeir, and longer induring our said dearest mother's wil, for causes above written; and gif any bailzies, counsale, or officiars, be ellis chosin be their aviss and election, and not conform to the said auld laudible use of the said burrow, that the said provest reform the same, and cheize the maist famous and qualifoit merchands and craftsmen, beand gild and freemen, to bear offices within our said burgh: Ya levand the execution of yar crafts so lang as ya beir offices; and in case any of the bailzies or counsale ellis electit disobeys, and will not come into the effect foresaid, that ye charge the said provest to convene othirs maist famous merchandis and craftsmen and chiefs of new, sic persons to beir offices and reule within our said burgh, as beis found the maist famous and qualefyit thairfor, sic like as thai might haif done at the feast of Michaelmas last by past, and mantein and defend them therintil, conform to the said auld laudible use, notwithstanding any our acts of parliament, or othir statuts in the contrary, anent the quhilks we dispense, be thir presents, delivering the same to you duely execute, and indorsit again to the berar. Given under our signet, and subscrivit by our said dearest mother

Digitized by Google

at Edinburgh, the 17th October, and of our reigne the thretteine zeir."

Quhilk letters and charge the said provest obeyit, and commandit the said John Bonar, Masar, Alexander Borthwick, John Ester, to pass command, and charge the auld counsal this last zeir to convene within the council hous to the effect of the said letters; viz. Adam Ramsay, Thomas Flemyng, John Moncur, Andrew Robertson, Alexander Bunch, George Johnston, Patrick Adamson, William Tyrie, David Donaldson, and William Cock, wha being chargit, disobeyit, and convenit no there. And thereaftir compeirit the decayns, viz. David Donaldson, William Murray, James Anderson, John Ronaldson, William Kyes, Thomas Fowlis, James Schang, John Robertson, David Brewhous, and Patrick Murray, ane of the counsale, quhilks, with the provest, electit and choisit Adam Ramsay, Thomas Flemyng, Patrick Murray, James Macbreck, Patrick Adamson, William Tyrie, John Mitchel, Thomas Monipenny, John Anderson elder, Adam Blackwood, John Kinloch, and Andro Trumpit, to be of the new counsale this instant zeir, conform to the said charge.

Compeirit James Macbreck, ane of the counsail, in name of the bailzies and certain of the counsail, and protestit that what beis done this day, being an Sunday and haly day, the auld and new counsail na being present, that the same be na prejudice to the counsail, and bailzies being electit of before on the said counsail-day after Michaelmas last. And the hail deacons of crafts requirit the provest to elect and choise bailzies and officiars, conform to the desire of our Sovreign Lady's letters. And to that effect John Bonar,

Digitized by Google

Bonar, masar, by virtue of the said letters, chargit the provest to the effect foresaid, wha answerit, said, He would obey conform to our Sovereign Lady's hand writ and signet; the provest commandit the said John Bonar to pass and charge the said auld counsail to convene, conform to our Sovereign Lady's letters; wha beand chargit, dissobeyit, and answered not.

And heraftir the provest and dekains of crafts, with Patrick Murray, choisit the foresaid persons to be of the new counsail, and chargit John Bonar, masar, to charge them to convene and elect the bailzies, wha being chargit, convened not, except the said Patrick Murray and John Kinloch: And thereaftir the provest, deakins of crafts, William Cock, David Donaldson of the auld counsail, Patrick Murray, John Kinloch, of the new counsail, has electit and chosen by litis the persons following—

Bailies—John Moncur, Andrew Robertson, Alexander Roy, Walter Piper;

and hes dischargit the remanent bailzies, viz. William Tyrie and Alexander Bunch, that were chosin at Michaelmas, conform to the charge of our Sovereign Lady's letters, and ordained the counsail and bailzies chosin this day to be proclaimed at the market-cross to-morrow, and to be obyit, mantainit, and defendit, conform to our Sovereign Lady's letters and charge; and sicklike to discharge the said William Tyrie and Alexander Bunch.

By the Queen's order, dated at St Andrew's, 2d December, 1555, the above election is confirmed, and ordered to qualify and accept the offices.

29th June, 1557. Quhilk day convenit within the counsail-house of Perth, the hail counsail and hail de-

Digitized by Google

cains of crafts of the same; and there, after diverse allegations alledgit and proponit be either of them, of thair awn free willis, for guide rule, order, amitie, and kindnes to be had among the merchandis and craftsmen and hail communitie thereof, hes referrit the cheising and electing of the four bailzies in my Lord Ruthven's will, to be chosen and deputed be his Lordship to use the office of bailzierie, quhill Michaelmas next to come after the said Michaelmas. Quhilk Lord, after guide advisement for staunching of appearand skaith and cumers among them, and pleasure of his maistres the Queine's Grace, and for guide rule and order to be had amangis the inhabitants of the said burgh, sua that our Sovereign Lady's lieges adjacent thereto may be the better treat and usit in sua far as concerns the burgh, and less cause to complaint; has electit, chosit, namit, and ordaint,

Bailies—Thomas Flemyng, William Tyrie, David Seaton, Walter Piper,

to use the office thereof for administration of justice quhyl Michaelmas next to come; and sicklike hes ordainit, that twa of the said bailies sall be put togidder in judgement, at all decreets giving, and other grite affairs of the town, conform to our Sovereign Lady's and Lordes of secret counsal's ordinance. Quhilk bailzies hes made faith, and sworn in judgement for administration of justice without favour or feid, price or prayer, &c.

5th October, 1558.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Ray, John Monypenny, William Flemyng, James Anderson baker.

2d

Digitized by Google

2d October, 1559.

Provost---Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Murray, Patrick Bruson, Thomas Monypenny, George Johnston glover.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Adamson.

The barbarous execution at Perth in 1544, before mentioned, of innocent persons for the Protestant faith, instead of quenching the flame which burned imperceptibly, increaseed it, together with a settled aversion to the priests and their superstition. The Reformation began to spread by the very means that were taken to suppress it. The cruel and illegal burning of George Wishart, son of the laird of Pittarrow, a fervent preacher of the gospel, filled St Andrew's, where he was burned by Cardinal Bethune, with Protestants, and also Dundee and Montrose, where he usually preached. The death of Walter Mylne, priest of Lunan, near Montrose, a good man, above eighty years old, who was also burnt at St Andrew's, A. D. 1558, by Archbishop Hamilton, exasperated the whole country. The lords of the congregation (as they were then called) displayed their banners in defence of their lives and liberties. The Regent Queen had professed moderation towards the Reformers, but receiving intelligence that the public exercise of the reformed religion had been introduced into Perth, she pulled off the mask, and commanded all the Protestant preachers in the kingdom to be summoned to a court of justice, which was to be held at Stirling, the 10th of May, 1559. The Protestants were alarmed, but not intimidated, by this danger: they instantly resolved not to abandon the men to whom they were indebted for the most valu-

Digitized by Google

able of all blessings, the knowledge of the truth. They convened in great numbers to attend their pastors to Stirling. The Queen dreaded their approach with a train so numerous, though unarmed, and, in order to prevent them from advancing, she empowered John Erskine of Dun, a person of eminent authority with the party, to promise, in her name, that she would put a stop to the intended trial, on condition the preachers and their retinue advanced no nearer to Stirling. Erskine, being convinced of the Queen's sincerity, served her with the utmost zeal. The Protestants, averse from proceeding to any acts of violence, listened with pleasure to so pacific a proposition. The preachers, with a few leaders of the party, remained at Perth. The multitude, which had gathered from different parts of the kingdom, dispersed, and retired to their own habitations.

Notwithstanding this solemn promise, the Queen, on the 10th of May, proceeded to call to trial the persons who had been summoned; and, upon their non-appearance, the rigour of justice took place, and they were pronounced outlaws. By this ignoble artifice, so incompatible with real dignity, and so inconsistent with the integrity which should prevail in all transactions between sovereigns and their subjects, the Queen forfeited the confidence and esteem of the whole nation.

We are informed by Buchanan, that a Parliament was summoned to be held at Stirling the 10th of May; and that the Queen said, That now, when she was free from other cares, she would not suffer the majesty of government to be debased, but would restore it to its ancient glory by some eminent examples.—

These

Digitized by Google

These words portended a storm, therefore many applied for her favour. The Protestants deputed Alexander Cunningham, Earl of Glencairn, and Sir Hugh Campbell, Sheriff of Ayr, their commissioners, to soften the Queen. To their humble supplication and remonstrance she replied, with a haughty tone, "Do you and your ministers what you will, or can; yea, though they preach never so sincerely, they shall all be banished." They begged her to remember what she had so often been pleased to promise them: to which she answered, that "The promises of princes were to be no further urged than suited their conveniency." The commissioners then told her with spirit, that they would renounce all allegiance and subjection to her, and advised her to consider the consequences. She was unexpectedly struck with this spirited answer, and her wrath began to subside; but, having received intelligence that Perth had publicly embraced the reformed religion, she turned to Lord Ruthven, who was present, and commanded him to exercise his authority as provost, and suppress those tumults and innovations in religion. He answered, That he had power over their bodies and estates, and those he would take care should do no hurt, but that he had no dominion over their consciences. At which answer she was so enraged, that she said, She hoped none would think it strange if he were shortly made to repent his stubborn impudence. At the same time she commanded James Halyburton, sheriff of Dundee, to seize, and send prisoner to her, Paul Methven, a zealous reformer, and in great esteem; the Sheriff gave him notice to retire, and save his life. She ordered all the assemblies to keep the en-

Digitized by Google

suing Easter, according to the rites of the Church of Rome. They disobeyed; which so provoked her, that she ordered all the ministers to be summoned to answer, at Stirling, the 10th of May. Matters stood in this ticklish posture when Knox arrived at Perth.

Upon the 11th of May, the day after the preachers were all exiled, Knox preached in the kirk of Perth a zealous and animated sermon against the idolatry of the church of Rome.

After sermon, the most respectable citizens went home to dinner in a peaceable manner. The indiscretion of a priest, who, after the sermon, was preparing to celebrate Mass, and began to decorate the altar for that purpose, precipitated the people who remained into action with tumultuary, but irresistible violence; they fell upon the churches, overturned the altars, defaced the pictures, broke in pieces the images, and, proceeding next to the monasteries, in a few hours they laid these sumptuous fabrics almost level with the ground. This riotous insurrection was not the effect of concert, or any previous deliberation; censured by the reformed preachers, and publicly condemned by the persons of most power and credit with the party, it must be regarded merely as an accidental irruption of popular rage.

The Queen having heard with concern the destruction of the religious houses at Perth, the Chartrieux monastery especially, as it was a stately pile of building, and a royal palace, and the repository of the remains of the first James, she determined to inflict the severest vengeance on the whole party. She had already drawn the troops in French pay to Stirling; with these, and what Scottish forces she could levy of

Digitized by Google

a sudden, she marched directly to Perth, in hopes of surprising the Protestant leaders, before they could assemble their followers, whom, out of confidence in her disingenuous promises, they had been rashly induced to dismiss. Intelligence of these preparations and menaces was soon conveyed to Perth. The Protestants, animated with zeal for religion, and eager to expose themselves in so good a cause, flocked in such numbers to Perth, they not only secured the town from danger, but, within a few days, were in a condition to take the field, and to face the Queen, who advanced with an army seven thousand strong, commanded by D'Oysel, the French General, a creature of the house of Guise. The army hasted and pitched their tents at Auchterarde, fourteen miles west from Perth, guarding all the avenues to that city. The Earl of Glencairn, by rapid marching through bye-paths and narrow ways, eluded D'Oysel's utmost precautions, and arrived the 27th of May with a reinforcement of two thousand five hundred men from Kyle, Cuningham, and Glasgow. The Queen dreaded the event of a battle with men whom the fervour of religion raised above the sense of fear, or of danger. The Protestants beheld with regret the Earl of Argyle, the Prior of St Andrew's, and some other eminent persons of their party, still adhering to the Queen; and, destitute of their aid and counsel, declined hazarding an action, the ill success of which might have proved the ruin of their cause. The prospect of an accommodation was, for these reasons, highly acceptable to both sides. Commissioners were appointed to negotiate a treaty. Erskine of Dun, Ogilvie of Innercarity, and Scott of Abbotshall, were

Digitized by Google

sent by the Lords of the congregation, who met with the Earl of Argyle, and James Stewart, Prior of St Andrew's, the Queen's commissioners, who were sincerely desirous of reconciling the contending factions; the Earl of Glencairn's unexpected arrival with a powerful reinforcement to the congregation, augmented the Queen's eagerness for peace.

A treaty was accordingly concluded, in which it was stipulated, that both armies should be disbanded, and the gates of Perth set open to the Queen; that indemnity should be granted to the inhabitants of that city, and to all others concerned in the late insurrection; that no French garrison should be left in Perth, and no French soldiers should approach within three miles of that place; and that a Parliament should immediately be held, in order to compose whatever differences might still remain. The congregation, with their leaders, were so sincere in their intention of keeping the peace, that with one voice they cried, "Accursed be they that seek effusion of blood; let us profess Christ Jesus, and the benefit of his gospel, and none within Scotland shall be more obedient subjects than we shall be." But, distrustful of the Queen's sincerity, and sensible that concessions, flowing not from inclination, but extorted by the necessity of her affairs, could not long remain in force, they entered into a new association, by which they bound themselves, on the first infringement of the present treaty, or on the least appearance of danger to their religion, to re-assemble their followers, and to take arms in defence of what they esteemed the cause of God, and of their country. This covenant was signed in their name by Argyle, the Prior of St Andrew's, Glencairn,

Digitized by Google

Glencairn, Lord Boyd, Lord Ochiltree, and Campbell of Teringland.

Upon the 29th of May, the Queen entered Perth, with the Duke of Hamilton, and the French general, D'Oysel, and by her conduct demonstrated these precautions to be the result of no groundleſs or unnecessary fear. No sooner were the Protestant forces dismissed, than she broke every article of the treaty. She introduced French troops into Perth; and, while Patrick Murray, one of the reformers, with his family, from a balcony, were beholding the French troops marching down the street, the soldiers levelled six or seven shot at the place, and killed his son, a boy about twelve years old. His dead body was carried before the Queen, who, understanding whose son he was, expressed her sympathy in these words: "It is pity that it chanced on the son, and not on the father; but seeing that it so hath happened, we cannot be against fortune." This was her happy entry into Perth. The whole town was oppressed by the French; a swarm of priests entered with her, and began to make preparations for celebrating Mass. Lord Ruthven and the bailies were stripped of their authority. John Chartres of Kinfauns was made Provost, who was no friend to the reformers, and who bore a hostile hatred to the citizens since the year 1544. He was the Queen's tool in fining, imprisoning, and banishing the inhabitants, but his reign was short.

The Queen, on her retiring to Stirling, left behind her a garrison of 6000 men, with orders to allow the exercise of no other religion than the Roman Catholic. The situation of Perth, at that time of some strength,

Digitized by Google

strengh, and a town the most proper of any in the kingdom for the station of a garrison, seems to have allured the Queen to this unjustifiable and ill-judged breach of public faith, which she endeavoured to colour by alledging, that the body of men left at Perth was composed of native Scots, though kept in pay by the King of France. The Queen's scheme began gradually to unfold. It was now apparent, that not only the religion, but the liberties of the kingdom were threatened; and that the French troops, about 3000 in number, commanded by D'Oysel, a creature of the house of Guise, were to be employed as instruments for subduing the Scots, and wreathing the yoke about their necks. The Earl of Argyle, and Prior of St Andrew's, instantly deserted a court where faith and honour seemed to be no longer regarded. The barons from the neighbouring counties repaired to them at St Andrew's. The preachers roused the people to arms; and, wherever they came, the same violent operations, which accident had occasioned at Perth, were now encouraged out of policy. The enraged multitude was let loose, and churches and monasteries, the monuments of Ecclesiastical pride and luxury, were sacrificed to their zeal.

In order to check their career, the Queen, without losing a moment, put her troops in motion; but the zeal of the congregation got the start once more of her vigilance and activity. Though they set out from St Andrew's with a slender train of an hundred horse, crowds flocked to their standards from every corner of the country through which they marched; and before they reached Falkland, only ten miles distant, they

Digitized by Google

they were able to face the Queen with superior force.

The Queen, surprised at the approach of so formidable a body, had again recourse to negotiation; she found, however, that the preservation of the Protestant religion, zeal for which had at first roused the leaders of the congregation to take arms, was not the only object they had now in view. They were animated with the warmest love of civil liberty, which they conceived to be in imminent danger from the attempts of the French forces; and these two passions mingling, added reciprocally to each other's strength. Knox, and the other preachers of the Reformation, infused generous sentiments concerning government into the minds of their hearers; and the Scottish barons, naturally free and bold, were prompted to assert their rights with more freedom and boldness than ever.—Instead of obeying the Queen Regent, who had enjoined them to lay down their arms, they demanded not only the redress of their religious grievances, but, as a preliminary towards settling the nation and securing its liberties, they required the immediate expulsion of the French troops out of Scotland. In order to amuse them and gain time, she agreed to a cessation of arms for eight days, and, before the expiration of these, engaged to transport the French troops to the south side of the Forth, and to send commissioners to St Andrew's, who should labour to bring all differences to accommodation, as she hoped, by means of the French troops, to overawe the Protestants in the southern counties. The former article in the treaty was punctually executed; the latter, having been inserted merely

Digitized by Google

merely to amuse the congregation, was no longer remembered.

By these reiterated wanton instances of perfidy, the Queen lost all credit with her adversaries; and no safety appearing in any other course, they again took arms with more inflamed resentment, and with bolder and more extensive views. The removing of the French forces had laid open to them all the country situated between Forth and Tay. The inhabitants of Perth alone remaining subjected to the insolence and exactions of the garrison which the Queen had left there, implored the assistance of the congregation for their relief. Thither Argyle, the Prior, and Lord Ruthven marched; and having, without effect, required the Queen to evacuate the town in terms of the former treaty, they, on refusal, prepared to besiege it in form. The Queen employed the Earl of Huntly and Lord Erskine to divert them from this enterprize. Her wonted artifices were now of no avail; repeated so often, they could deceive no longer; and, without listening to her offers, they continued the siege. Lord Ruthven attacked it on the west, aud Provost Halyburton, with his people from Dundee, fired with his artillery from the bridge, and soon obliged them to capitulate, upon the 26th of June 1559.

After the reduction of Perth, the populace went to Scone, to destroy the abbey and palace. Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, son of the first Earl of Bothwell of that name, held the abbacy in perpetual commendam, and resided in the palace. He had been a severe scourge to the Reformers, and was obnoxious

Digitized by Google

noxious to them ever since the death of Mr Walter Mylne, who, by his particular counsel, was burnt at St Andrew's; they, with assistance from Dundee, attacked the abbey and palace, though guarded by a hundred horsemen. Halyburton, Provost of Dundee, with his brother, and Mr Knox, hearing of this tumult, went and intreated the people to spare the edifices, to whom they hearkened, and separated, after they had destroyed the monuments of idolatry; but the next day, a citizen of Dundee was run through the body with a sword, by one of the Bishop's sons, while he was looking in at the door of the Bishop's granary; which so enraged the people both of Perth and Dundee, that they quickly repaired to Scone, and, notwithstanding the entreaties of Argyle, Ruthven, the Prior, and all the preachers, they pillaged and set fire to these noble edifices, and burnt them to the ground, on the 27th of June. An aged matron, whose house was near to the abbey, when she beheld it in flames, said, "Now I see that God's judgements are just, and that no man is able to save where he will punish. This place, since I could remember, hath been nothing but a den of whoremongers. It is incredible to believe how many wives have been adulterated, and virgins deflowered, by the filthy beasts who have been fostered in this den; but especially by that wicked man who is called the Bishop; if all men knew as much as I, they would praise God, and no man would be offended."

Amidst these irregular proceedings, a circumstance which does honour to the conduct and humanity of the leaders of the congregation, deserves notice; they so far restrained the rage of their followers, and were able so to temper their heat and zeal, that few of the Roman

Digitized by Google

Roman Catholics were exposed to any personal insult; and not a single man suffered death. At the same time we discover, by the facility with which these great revolutions were effected, how violently the national favour ran towards the Reformation.

After the loss of Perth, the Queen endeavoured to seize Stirling. Argyle and the Prior, leaders of the congregation, having received intelligence of her design, marched out of Perth with three hundred citizens, resolved to prosecute the Reformation, or perish in the attempt, having felt the severe yoke of the French government, and Kinfaun's magistracy. To shew their zeal and resolution, instead of ribbands, they put ropes about their necks, that whoever deserted the colours should certainly be hanged by these ropes; from this circumstance arose the proverb of St Johnston's Ribbands. A picture of their march out of Perth, painted in the town-clerk's office, is to be seen at this day, with ropes about their necks.—With this inconsiderable force they advanced; but, wherever they came, the people joined them in a body. Their army was seldom less numerous than five thousand men. The gates of Stirling and every other town were thrown open to receive them, where they took care to destroy every monument of Popish superstition; and, without striking a blow, they took possession of the capital of the kingdom, and having purged the kirks of idols, they placed the reformed preachers in them. This rapid and astonishing success seems to have encouraged the Reformers to extend their views, and to rise in their demands. Not satisfied with their first claim of toleration for their religion, they now openly aimed at establishing the Protestant

Digitized by Google

Protestant doctrine on the ruin of Popery; for this reason they determined to fix their residence at Edinburgh; and, by their appointment, Knox, Willocks, and some other preachers, taking possession of the pulpits, which had been abandoned by the affrighted clergy, declaimed against the errors of Popery with such fervent zeal as could not fail of gaining many proselytes.

30th September, 1560.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Murray, Patrick Bruson, Thomas Monypenny, George Johnston.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Adamson.

1561.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—John Maxton, Alexander Oliphant, Andrew Ramsay, John Kinloch, saddler.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Robertson.

1562.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—William Flemyng, Patrick Bruson, John Anderson, James Anderson baker.

Dean of Guild—Robert Patullo.

Treasurer—Patrick Adamson.

1563.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Oliphant, Thomas Monypenny, Patrick Murray, John Kinloch saddler.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Ramsay.

Treasurer—William Flemyng.

1564.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies—Patrick Murray, Patrick Bruson, John Monypenny, Walter Pyper flesher.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Monypenny.

Treasurer—William Flemyng.

1565.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Murray, John Anderson, Patrick Bruson, Walter Pyper flesher.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Monypenny.

Treasurer—Andrew Ramsay.

1566.

Provost—Patrick Lord Ruthven *.

Bailies—John Anderson, William Flemyng, Thomas Monypenny, Walter Pyper flesher.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Flemyng.

Treasurer—Andrew Ramsay.

30th September, 1566.

Whilk day, at the command of our Sovereign Lord and Lady's letteris, execute be William Mershall, officiar, the council convenit within the council-house, and electit

Provost—Sir William Murray, of Tullibardin.

Bailies—William Tyrie, Thomas Fenton, John Maxton, John Davidson skinner.

Dean

* Lord Ruthven had been sick three months. The King communicated to him his purpose of destroying Rizzio, and told Ruthven that Rizzio was a mortal enemy to the banished Lords; to save them, he proposed to have Rizzio slain. Ruthven was for bringing him to justice, and hanging him. The King was impetuous, and for slaying him that night, and promised to charge himself with it, and protect the accomplices. Morton conducted the assassination plot, and Rizzio was slain on the 9th of March. The King basely forsook them, and Ruthven fled into England, where he died.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—William Flemyng.

Treasurer—Andrew Ramsay.

The provost, the 3d April following, 1567, renounced in the council's hands his office, that they might chuse whom they pleased. They made choice of the treasurer, Andrew Ramsay, whose reign was but short.

6th October, 1567.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Murray of Tibbermuir, Thomas Monypenny, William Flemyng, Walter Balneavis, *alias* Pyper.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Oliphant.

Treasurer—James Hepburn.

4th October, 1568.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Alexander Oliphant, John Anderson younger, Patrick Anderson, *alias* Gardner, George Johnston glover.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Monypenny.

Treasurer—James Hepburn.

3d October, 1569.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Thomas Monypenny, John Ogston, Andrew Mercer, Alexander Anderson baker.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Murray of Tibbermuir.

Treasurer—Patrick Anderson.

2d October, 1570.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—William Flemyng, Alexander Oliphant, Henry Adamson, John Pebles baker.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Murray.

Treasurer—Thomas Monypenny.

Digitized by Google

1st October, 1571.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Ray, Andrew Mercer, Dionysius Conqueror, John Pebles baker.

Dean of Guild—Henry Adamson.

Treasurer—Thomas Monypenny.

6th October, 1572.

By an order of the King, signed by John, Earl of Mar, Regent, directed to the Magistrates, Council, and Deacons of Crafts, the council met on the 13th. The merchants and trades were tumultuous, ran into confusion, protesting against one another. Lord Ruthven made a motion, to refer the election for that year to him, to which they agreed; still protesting each party that this shall be no hurt to their privileges. Accordingly he nominated

Bailies—Andrew Mercer, Oliver Pebles, William Flemyng, John Pebles baker.

Dean of Guild—John Monypenny.

Treasurer—Patrick Inglis saddler.

N. B. This is the first craft's treasurer.

5th October, 1573.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Andrew Mercer, William Flemyng, Oliver Pebles, John Pebles baker.

Dean of Guild—John Monypenny.

Treasurer—Patrick Inglis, saddler.

4th October, 1574.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—John Anderson elder, Henry Adamson, Dionysius Conqueror, George Johnston glover.

Dean of Guild—Oliver Pebles of Chapelhill.

Treasurer—Thomas Monypenny.

These

Digitized by Google

These were sworn openly into their offices this year, and professed the true religion of Jesus Christ, renouncing all idolatry and superstition, and all papistical errors whatsoever, acknowledging and avowing the right excellent, right high, and mighty prince, James VI. by the grace of God, King of Scots, for their only sovereign; promising for this time forth, during the time of their continuing in the offices into which they are now elected, to continue in the profession of the true religion, and to keep faithful and true allegiance to our said sovereign Lord, whose authority and sovereignty they shall assist and defend to the utmost of their life, with their bodies, goods, and gear, against the enemies of God and his Majesty, being either strangers, or his Highness's unnatural and disobedient subjects whatsoever; and hereupon ilk ane are sworn severally by God himself.

The Magistrates and whole Council swore the above oath, which continued to be administered annually.

3d October, 1575.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Oliver Pebles, William Flemyng, Robert Anderson, Patrick Inglis saddler.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Mercer.

Treasurer—Thomas Monypenny.

1st October, 1576.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Whitelaw, Thomas Monypenny, Dionysius Conqueror, James Anderson baker.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Mercer.

Treasurer—William Hall baker.

Henry Adamson, in name of the merchants, protested against William Hall. George Johnston, in

Digitized by Google

name of the crafts, protested that their privileges granted by the Kings and Queens of Scotland should not be hurt.

15th October, 1577.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Whitelaw, Thomas Monypenny, Dionysius Conqueror, James Anderson barber.

Dean of Guild—Oliver Pebles.

Treasurer—William Hall baker.

6th October, 1578.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Henry Adamson, William Flemyng, Robert Anderson, John Davidson elder.

Dean of Guild—Dionysius Conqueror.

Treasurer—William Anderson.

5th October, 1579.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Henry Adamson, William Flemyng, Robert Anderson, John Davidson elder.

Dean of Guild—Dionysius Conqueror.

Treasurer—William Anderson.

7th October, 1580.

The election of the Magistrates being continuit to this day, likeas thai sould have been electit the ordinar day after Michaelmas, be our Sovereign's letteris, subscribit with his hand, dispensand with the time as at length containit in our Sovereign's letter and charge, at the palace of Holyruidhouse, the penult day of September, 1580.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Patrick Whitelaw of Newgrange, William Anderson, Alexander Omey, Henry Lees taylor.

Dean

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—Robert Anderson.

Treasurer—George Johnston skinner.

2d October, 1581.

Provost—William Lord Ruthven.

Bailies—Oliver Pebles, William Flemyng, Robert Anderson, Henry Lees taylor.

Dean of Guild—Henry Adamson.

Treasurer—George Johnston M'Gregor taylor.

30th September, 1582 *.

Provost—William Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies---Patrick Whitelaw, Oliver Pebles, William Flemyng, Patrick Inglis saddler.

Dean of Guild---Dionysius Conqueror.

Treasurer---George Johnston.

30th September, 1583.

Provost---William Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies---James Hepburn, James Drummond, Adam Anderson, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild---Dionysius Conqueror.

Treasurer—George Johnston skinner.

30th September, 1584.

Provost---William Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies---James Hepburn, James Drummond, Adam Anderson, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild---Dionysius Conqueror.

Treasurer---George Johnston skinner.

Lord Gowrie was executed at Stirling on the 2d of May, after about nine o'clock at night; and by the King's order was elected,

5th June following,

John Earl of Montrose.

The Bailies continued.

* Fourteenth of January, five arches of the bridge of Tay fell by the violence of a high overflowing of the river.

Digitized by Google

The occasion of the Earl of Gowrie's violent death must be sought for a few years back. Captain James Stewart, son of Lord Ochiltree, who, in 1581, accused and brought to the block the Regent, Earl of Morton, for being concerned art and part in the murder of Lord Darnley, procured the guardianship of the young Earl of Arran, who was disordered in his senses, occasioned by ill usage, vexation, and disappointment. This unfortunate nobleman, once beloved by the Reformers, the Captain shut up in a close prison, used him with barbarous cruelty, and took possession of his titles and estates. He was profligate; a scorner of every thing that was serious; aspiring, artful, revengeful, and avaricious. He had the address to insinuate himself into the favour of the young King, whom he flattered and humoured in all his juvenile passions; he wounded his ears with lectures on dissipation and debauchery. He was hospitably entertained at the house of the Earl of March, grand-uncle to the King. Without regarding the laws of hospitality or of gratitude, he carried on a criminal intrigue with the wife of his benefactor, a woman young and beautiful, but, according to the description of a contemporary historian, "intolerable in all the imperfections incident to her sex." Impatient of any restraint upon their mutual desires, they, with equal ardour, wished to avow their union publicly, and to legitimate, by a marriage, the offspring of their unlawful passion. The Countess petitioned to be divorced from her husband, for a reason which no modest woman will ever plead. The judges, overawed by Arran, passed sentence without delay, and this infamous scene was concluded by a marriage solemnized

Digitized by Google

lemnized with great pomp, and beheld by all ranks of men with the utmost horror. When the King was at Kinneil, and not sixteen years old, Arran took his sister in his arms in her shirt, carried her to the King's apartment, desiring him to take and use her in the devil's name. This was one of the King's counsellors and minions. The other was Lord D'Aubigny, a Frenchman, afterwards Duke of Lennox. It was said that he was under the influence and conduct of the Duke of Guise, of an easy and humane disposition, and although a Papist, he affected to favour the Reformers. These two engrossed the favour of the young King, and ruled the nation with a rod of iron. The ancient nobility were disregarded; the Reformers hated and despised.

The two favourites, by their ascendancy over the King, possessed uncontrouled power over the kingdom, and exercised it with the utmost wantonness. James usually resided at Dalkeith or Kinneil, the seats of Lennox and Arran, and was attended by such company, and employed in such amusements, as did not suit his dignity. The services of those who had contributed most to place the crown upon his head, were but little remembered. Many who had opposed him with the greatest virulence, enjoyed the rewards and honours to which the others were entitled. Exalted notions of regal prerogative, utterly inconsistent with the constitution of Scotland, being instilled by his favourites into the mind of the young monarch, unfortunately made, at that early age, a deep impression there, and became the source of almost all the subsequent errors in the government of both kingdoms. Courts of justice were held in almost every

Digitized by Google

county; the proprietors of land were called before them, and, upon the slightest neglect of any of the numerous forms which are peculiar to feudal holdings, they were fined with unusual and intolerable rigour.

The Lord Chamberlain revived the obsolete jurisdiction of his office over boroughs, and they were subjected to exactions no less grievous. A design seemed likewise to have been formed to exasperate Queen Elizabeth, and to dissolve the alliance with her, which all good Protestants esteemed the chief security of their religion in Scotland.

A close correspondence was set on foot between the King and his mother, and considerable progress made towards uniting their titles to the crown, by such a treaty of association as Maitland had projected; which could not fail of endangering or diminishing of his authority, and must have proved fatal to those who acted against her with greatest vigour.

All these circumstances irritated the impatience of the Scottish nobles, who resolved to tolerate no longer the insolence of the two minions, or to stand by while their presumption and inexperience ruined both the King and the kingdom. Elizabeth, who, during the administration of the four Regents, had the entire direction of the affairs of Scotland, felt herself deprived of all influence in that kingdom ever since the death of Morton, and was ready to countenance any attempt to rescue the King out of the hands of favourites who were leading him into measures so repugnant to all her views. The Earls of Mar and Glencairn, Lord Ruthven, lately created Earl of Gowrie, Lord Lindsay, Lord Boyd, the Tutor of Glamis, the Master of Oliphant, with several Barons and gentlemen of distinction,

Digitized by Google

tinction, entered into a combination for that purpose; the King's situation, and the security of the favourites, encouraged them to have recourse to force.

James, after having resided for some time in Athol, where he enjoyed his favourite diversion of hunting, was now returning towards Edinburgh, August 22. with a small train. He was invited to Ruthven castle, which lay in his way. The multitude of strangers whom he found there gave him some uneasiness, which he concealed with the utmost care. Next morning he prepared for the field, expecting to find there some opportunity of making his escape. As he was ready to depart, the nobles entered and presented a memorial against the illegal and oppressive actions of his two favourites, whom they represented as most dangerous enemies to the religion and liberties of the nation. James, though he received this remonstrance with the complaisance which was necessary in his present situation, was extremely impatient to be gone; but, as he approached the door, the Master of Glamis rudely stopped him. The King complained, expostulated, threatened, and finding all these without effect, burst into tears: "No matter," said Glamis fiercely, "better children weep than bearded men." These words made a deep impression on the King's mind, and were never forgotten. The Lords, without regarding his tears and indignation, dismissed such of his followers as they suspected, allowed none but their own party to have access to him; and, though they treated him with the greatest respect, guarded his person with the utmost care. This enterprise is usually called by our historians *The raid of Ruthven.*

Sir James Melville, a member of the privy council, and

Digitized by Google

and the King's sincere friend, informs us, that after the deposition of Morton, the last of the four Regents, the King, not fifteen years of age, took the reins of government in his own hands, and was conducted by Lennox and Arran. Lennox was wholly guided by Arran and his wife, whom they began to envy, and endeavoured to supplant, that they might attain to the sole government of the King, and management of affairs. To accomplish this end, they gave him bad advice, and invidious information against his best friends. Lennox, having been educated a Papist, was suspected to be at the Duke of Guise's devotion, and therefore a dangerous man to be about his Majesty. The whole country was stirred up against him. The ambassador of England helped to kindle the fire. At the instigation and misinformation of Arran and his lady, he first cast off his true friend the Master of Mar, Captain of the castle of Edinburgh, and afterwards Sir William Stewart, Captain of Dumbarton, Alexander Clark, Provost of Edinburgh, and the Earl of Gowrie, Treasurer. The rest of the nobility were also dissatisfied to see these two young lords the only favourites of a young King, and aiming at the lives of the noblemen to get possession of their estates. They likewise suspected the reformed religion to be in danger, the one being Popish, and the other an enemy and sneerer at all religion. They thought that from two such counsellors no wholesome advice would proceed for the peace of the country; therefore many of them consulted together to remove them both from court. Accordingly, they presented to the King the following supplication at Ruthven castle.

"It

Digitized by Google

"It may appear strange to your Majesty, that we, your most humble and faithful subjects, are here convened beyond your expectation, and without your knowledge; but after your Majesty hath heard the urgent occasion that hath pressed us, your Majesty will not marvel at this our honest, lawful, and necessary enterprise.

"Sire, for the dutiful reverence that we owe unto your Majesty, and because we abhor to attempt any thing that might seem displeasing unto you, we have, for the space of two years, suffered such false accusations, calumnies, oppressions, and persecutions, by means of the Duke of Lennox, and him who is called the Earl of Arran, that the like insolencies and enormities were never heretofore borne with in Scotland; which wrongs, albeit they were most intolerable, yet, when they only touched us in particular, we comported with them patiently, ever attending when it should please your Majesty to give a remedy thereto. But seeing the persons foresaid have plainly designed to trouble the whole body of the commonwealth, as well the ministers of the blessed Evangel, as the true professors thereof, but in special that number of noblemen, barons, burgesses, and community, who did most worthily behave themselves in your Majesty's service during your youth; whom principally and only they molest, and against whom they use most extremity and rigour of laws, oftentimes most sinistrously perverting the same for their destruction; so that one part of these your best subjects are exiled, another part tormented, and put to questions which they are not in law obliged to answer; and withal, do execute with partiality and injustice all your laws; and if any

Digitized by Google

any escape their barbarous fury, they can have no access to your Majesty, but are falsely calumniated, and debarred from your presence, and kept out of your favour.

"Papists, and most notable murderers, are called home daily, and restored to their former honours and heritages, and oft-times highly rewarded with the offices and possessions of your most faithful servants.

"Finally, your estate royal is not governed by the council of your nobility, as your most worthy progenitors used to do, but at the pleasure of the foresaid persons, who enterprise nothing but as they are directed by the Bishops of Glasgow and Ross, your denounced rebels, having with them joined in their ordinary councils, the Pope's nuncio, with the ambassador of Spain, and such other of the Papists of France as endeavour to subvert the true religion, and to bring your Majesty in discredit with your subjects. They travel to cause you negotiate and traffic with your mother, without the advice of your estates, persuading your Majesty to be reconciled with her, and to associate her with you conjunctly in the authority royal, meaning nothing other thereby, but to convict us of usurpation and treason.

"And so having these best subjects out of the way, who, with the defence of your authority, maintained the true religion, as two things united and inseparable; what else would have followed but the wreck and destruction of both?

"For conclusion, your whole native country, for which, Sire, you must give an account to the eternal God, as we must be answerable to your Majesty, is so disturbed and altered, and the true religion, the commonwealth,

Digitized by Google

commonwealth, your estate and person, are in no less danger than when you were delivered out of the hands of the cruel murderers of your father; who they were, we will not insist on at present.

"Sire, beholding these great dangers to be imminent, and at hand, without speedy help, and perceiving your noble person in such hazard, the preservation whereof is more precious to us than our lives; finding also no appearance that your Majesty was forewarned hereof, but like to perish before you could see the peril, we thought that we could not be answerable to our eternal God, neither faithful subjects to your Majesty, if, according to our ability, we prevented not this present distress, preserving your Majesty from the same.

"For this effect, with all dutiful humility and obedience, we, your Majesty's true subjects, are here convened, desiring your Majesty, in the name of God, and for the love you bear to his true religion, to your country and commonwealth, and as you would see the tranquillity of your own estate, to retire yourself to some part of the country, where your Majesty's person may be most safely preserved, and your nobility secured, who are in hazard of lands, life, and heritages; and then your Majesty shall see the disloyalties, falsehoods, and treasons of the persons aforesaid, evidently proved, and declared to their faces, to the glory of God, advancement of his true religion, your Majesty's preservation and honour, and the deliverance of your commonwealth and country, and to their perpetual ignominy and shame."

The nobles, in the mean time, treated the King with great respect, humoured him in his favourite diversion

Digitized by Google

version of hunting. He often resided at Gowrie's palace in Perth, made excursions to the country, and to Stirling, Linlithgow, and Edinburgh, the Lords keeping constantly about him.

Lennox and Arran were astonished to the last degree at an event so unexpected, and so fatal to their power. The former endeavoured, but without success, to excite the inhabitants of Edinburgh to take up arms, in order to rescue their Sovereign from captivity. The latter, with his usual impetuosity, mounted on horseback the moment he heard what had befallen the King, and, with a few followers, rode towards Ruthven castle; and as a considerable body of the conspirators, under the command of the Earl of Mar, lay in his way ready to oppose him, he separated himself from his companions, and with two attendants arrived at the gate of the castle. At the sight of a man so odious to his country, the indignation of the conspirators rose, and instant death would have been the punishment of his rashness, if the friendship of Gowrie, or some other cause not explained by our historians, had not saved a life so pernicious to the kingdom. He was conveyed, however, to the castle of Stirling, without being admitted into the King's presence.

Lennox was banished to France, where he soon after died. Arran was driven from court. After the King had been ten months in the hands of the enterprising noblemen, by a stratagem he found means to escape to the castle of St Andrew's, where the heads of the opposite faction attended him, only Gowry of the other party remained and made his peace with the King, he returned to Ruthven castle, and not long after

Digitized by Google

after the King made him a visit at that place; but Arran, who was restored to his former power and favour with the King, was determined to ruin him, and therefore procured an act banishing him the kingdom. Gowry was ordered to France, but while he lingered at Dundee, Colonel Stewart, captain of the guards, was sent to apprehend him, who made him prisoner after an obstinate defence. Two days after, Angus, Mar, and Glamis, seized the castle of Stirling, and erecting their standards there, published a manifesto, declaring that they took arms for no other reason but to remove from the King's presence a minion who had acquired power by the most unworthy actions, and who exercised it with the most intolerable insolence. The account of Gowry's imprisonment struck a damp upon their spirits. They were disappointed of a sum of money promised by Elizabeth, their friends and vassals came but slowly in, the King was advancing at the head of twenty thousand men; they fled precipitately towards England, and with difficulty made their escape. This rash and feeble attempt hurt the cause for which it was undertaken, added strength and reputation to the King, confirmed Arran's power, end enabled them to pursue their measures with more boldness and greater success. Gowrie was the first victim of Arran's resentment. After a very informal trial, a jury of peers (among whom was Arran) found him guilty of treason, and he was beheaded at Stirling. The King had no intention of taking Gowrie's life. He was a grandchild of the Earl of Angus, and near kinsman to the King. But Arran was determined to have his estates, and therefore, to make a party to assist him in the design of ruining him, he engaged

Digitized by Google

engaged to divide his lands with them. At his death he shewed himself a devout Christian, a resolute Roman, and was much regretted by all who heard his last speech. After a career of tyranny and wickedness, Arran was surprised and slain by James Douglas of Parkhead, in revenge of his uncle the Earl of Morton's death. So much was he hated and despised, that little inquiry was made after Douglas.

5th October, 1585.

Provost—John Earl of Montrose.

Bailies---William Flemyng, Thomas Monypenny, Patrick Blair, George Johnston skinner.

Dean of Guild---Dionysius Conqueror.

Treasurer---William Anderson.

Sixteenth December thereafter, by virtue of the King's letter and charge, dated at Linlithgow, 11th of December, the magistrates were set aside, and in their room were chosen,

Provost---John Earl of Athol.

Bailies---Patrick Whitelaw of Newgrange, Oliver Pebles, William Flemyng, Henry Lees taylor.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Mercer.

Treasurer---William Hall baker.

3d October, 1586.

Provost---John Earl of Athol.

Bailies--William Flemyng, Patrick Whitelaw, Oliver Car, David Forbes saddler.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Monypenny.

Treasurer---Patrick Ray.

2d October, 1587.

Provost---James Hepburn.

Bailies---Alexander Oliphant, Patrick Blair, James Adamson, William Hall baker.

Dean

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—Robert Anderson.

Treasurer—George Johnston.

N. B. There were great contentions about the last election, and complaints made to the King and Lords of Secret Council, that the new set had applied the common good to their own private use. They were convened before the King and Secret Council at Falkland. On hearing the cause, the chief authors were confined to the castle of Blackness; and the King, with the advice of his Lords, ordered to be chosen,

2d October, 1587.

Provost—James Earl of Gowrie *.

Bailies—Patrick Blair, Adam Anderson, Oliver Young, Andrew Malcolm baker.

Dean of Guild—Robert Anderson.

Treasurer—Oliver Pebles.

2d October, 1588.

By the King's letter.

Provost—James Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies—Oliver Young, Patrick Blair, Alexander Maxton, Patrick Grant skinner.

The same year, 2d October, the council referred the election of Provost to the King, who accepted the reference, and nominated,

6th October, 1589.

Provost—John Earl of Athole, not sworn.

Bailies—Andrew Mercer, Oliver Young, Robert Anderson, Henry Balneavis flesher, sworn.

* After Arran was turned out, and degraded by the King and Protestant Lords, Gowrie's sons were restored to their honours and estates. James Earl of Gowrie was young when elected, and died when he was Provost, which occasioned the reference to the King for a new nomination.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—James Drummond, sworn.

Treasurer—Oliver Pebles.

5th October, 1590.

Provost—John Earl of Athole, not sworn.

Bailies—Oliver Pebles, James Adamson, John Spence, Andrew Donaldson, Andrew Malcolm, sworn.

Dean of Guild—James Drummond, sworn.

Treasurer—John Spence, sworn.

4th October, 1591.

Provost—John Earl of Athole, not sworn.

Bailies—Oliver Young, Patrick Blair, Adam Anderson, Andrew Malcolm, sworn.

Dean of Guild—James Drummond, sworn.

Treasurer—John Spence.

2d October, 1592.

Provost—John Earl of Gowrie, sworn.

Bailies—Oliver Pebles of Chapelhill, Oliver Young, James Adamson, George Robertson, sworn.

Dean of Guild—James Drummond, sworn.

Treasurer—John Spence, sworn.

1st October, 1593.

Provost—John Earl of Gowrie, sworn.

Bailies—Oliver Young, James Anderson, Robert Matthew, Thomas Johnston, sworn.

Dean of Guild—James Drummond, sworn.

Treasurer—Alexander Brown skinner, sworn.

30th September, 1594.

Provost—John Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies—Oliver Pebles, Oliver Young, Patrick Oliphant, Thomas Johnston.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Blair.

Treasurer—James Adamson.

On the 6th of August this year, the Earl told the council

Digitized by Google

council that he was to go abroad for his education; they unanimously entered into a resolution to elect him Provost next Michaelmas, and became bound for their successors in office to elect him annually until he returned. This agreement is signed by the whole town-council, in presence of Mr Patrick Galloway, minister of Perth, the King's chaplain, and Henry Elder, town-clerk. Such was the affection the town had for this young Lord, he was continued Provost until his death.

4th October, 1595.

Provost—John Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies---Patrick Blair, Robert Matthew, Constantine Meliss, Robert Cock.

Dean of Guild---Robert Anderson.

Treasurer---James Adamson.

4th October, 1596.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—John Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies—Patrick Blair, Robert Matthew, Constantine Meliss, Robert Cock.

Dean of Guild---Robert Anderson.

Treasurer---James Adamson.

3d October, 1597.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---John Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies---Oliver Pebles, James Drummond, James Adamson, Robert Leitham saddler.

Dean of Guild---Henry Adamson.

Treasurer---Robert Cock baker.

N. B. Henry Adamson was killed by Thomas Pebles on Good Friday, and none chosen in his room till Michaelmas next.

Digitized by Google

2d October, 1598.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---John Ear of Gowrie.

Bailies---Oliver Young, Patrick Blair, Constantine Meliss, Patrick Grant.

Dean of Guild---James Adamson.

Treasurer---Robert Matthew.

1st October, 1599.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---John Earl of Gowrie.

Bailies---Oliver Young, Constantine Meliss, Andrew Ray, Thomas Johnston.

Dean of Guild---James Adamson.

Treasurer---Robert Matthew.

N. B. The Earl and his brother were murdered in the Earl's palace at Perth the 5th of August following.

Alexander Blair of Balthayock was made Provost until Michaelmas.

6th October, 1600.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Alexander Blair of Balthayock.

Bailies---Oliver Young, Constantine Meliss, Andrew Ray, Thomas Johnston Bower.

Dean of Guild---James Adamson.

Treasurer---Robert Matthew.

A letter from the King, dated at Brechin, 28th September, 1600, was read in council.

" Trusty friends, we greet you heartily well, having pruif and experience of the loyaltie, affection, and guide service of you the present Provost, Bailzies, and Counsale of our brugh of Perth. We are no wise mindit that ye sal be alterit at the time of your election

Digitized by Google

election approaching, and theirfor haif thought guide to will and desire you, with sic of your neighbouris as hes vote in election of Magistrats within our said brugh, to continue you, and evry ane of you, in your particular offices within the same, without alteration or change, quharby we may have a full testimony of your guide will, honest dewties, and service severally."

Quhilk being read, the forsaid Provost, Counsale, and Decanis of Crafts, all in an vote, but variance, obeyit his Majesty's letter with all hearty guide will, and theirfor continues the present Provost, Bailzies, and Counsale for the year to come; and because of the ill parts of Oliver Peblis, and of Andro Henderson, wha is registrat at the horn, and summoned for treason, the Counsale be moniest votes has electit Andro Arnot and Gawin Dalziell to be in their place for filling up the Counsale *.

5th October, 1601.

Provost---Sir David Murray of Gospetrie.

Bailies—Oliver Young, Gavin Dalzell, Andrew Arnot, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild—Constantine Meliss.

Treasurer—Robert Leitham.

4th October, 1602.

Provost—Sir David Murray.

Bailies—Oliver Young, Gavin Dalzell, Andrew Arnot, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Blair.

Treasurer—William Anderson.

* It was necessary, to save appearances, that Andrew Henderson should be put out of the Council, as there was use for him at Gowrie's trial. Oliver Pebles was Gowrie's friend.

Digitized by Google

4th October, 1603.

Provost—Sir David Murray.

Bailies—James Drummond, James Adamson, Andrew Henderson, John Ogilvy saddler.

Dean of Guild—Robert Matthew.

Treasurer—Alexander Brown skinner.

N. B. Andrew Henderson, after he had served the Court by his deposition against Mr Alexander Ruthven, was restored by the interest of Sir David Murray to his seat in council, and this year elected youngest merchant Bailie. He was Lord Gowrie's Chamberlain at Scone, and continued in that office by Sir David Murray, who got that part of Gowrie's forfeited estate. He was so unpopular, that he was never after elected Magistrate. Spottiswood says that he had always a downcast countenance after the fright he got in the closet; but others attributed it to an evil conscience, which was directed by Mr Patrick Galloway.

1st October, 1604.

Provost—David Lord Scone.

Bailies—James Drummond, Gavin Dalzell, Constantine Meliss, Patrick Grant skinner.

Dean of Guild—James Adamson.

Treasurer—Alexander Brown skinner.

30th September, 1605.

Provost and Comptroller—David Lord Scone.

Bailies---William Dalzell, Robert Matthew, Andrew Arnot, Gabriel Mercer taylor.

Dean of Guild---James Adamson.

Treasurer—Robert Keir.

6th October 1606.

Provost---David Lord Scone.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies---Gavin Dalzell, Robert Matthew, Andrew Arnot, Gabriel Mercer.

Dean of Guild---James Adamson.

Treasurer---Robert Keir.

5th October, 1607.

Provost—David Lord Scone.

Bailies---James Drummond, Gavin Dalzell, Patrick Anderson, William Williamson baker.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Arnot.

Treasurer---David Maxton.

3d October, 1608.

Provost—David Lord Scone.

Bailies---Gavin Dalzell, Patrick Anderson, Constantine Meliss, William Williamson.

Dean of Guild—James Adamson.

Treasurer—David Maxton.

2d October, 1609.

A charge from the King was produced in council, narrating an act of Parliament, discharging any persons to bear office of Magistrates in burrows, except trading merchands and tradesmen residing in the burrows, under the pain of treason, and putting them to the horn and escheat of goods. In obedience to the King's charge were elected,

Provost—James Adamson merchant.

Bailies---David Chrystison, Thomas Wilson, David Sibbald, John Ogilvy saddler.

Dean of Guild—Gavin Dalzell.

Treasurer—William Powrie.

1st October, 1610.

Provost—James Adamson.

Bailies—James Drummond, Thomas Wilson, David Sibbald, Patrick Grant skinner.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—Constantine Meliss.
Treasurer—Robert Leitham hammerman.

30th September, 1611.

Provost—James Adamson.
Bailies—Constantine Meliss, William Powrie, Henry Anderson, James Balneavis flesher.
Dean of Guild---David Sibbald.
Treasurer---John Anderson.

5th October, 1612.

Provost---David Lord Scone.
Bailies---Henry Anderson, Andrew Grant, Charles Rollock, William Williamson baker.
Dean of Guild---David Sibbald.
Treasurer---William Hall baker.

4th October, 1613.

Provost---David Lord Scone.
Bailies---Constantine Meliss, David Sibbald, John Anderson, John Ogilvy saddler.
Dean of Guild---David Chrystison.
Treasurer---Andrew Grant merchant.

3d October, 1614.

Provost---David Lord Scone.
Bailies---Constantine Meliss, Charles Rollock, Andrew Gray, Andrew Anderson skinner.
Dean of Guild---David Chrystison.
Treasurer---Robert Burne skinner.

2d October, 1615.

Provost---David Lord Scone.
Bailies---Constantine Meliss, David Sibbald, Andrew Gray, Thomas Johnston Bower.
Dean of Guild---David Chrystison.
Treasurer---Adam Paterson merchant.

30th

Digitized by Google

30th September, 1616.

Provost---David Lord Scone.

Bailies---Alexander Peebles, Charles Rollock, John Anderson, William Williamson.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

Treasurer---Thomas Crombie flesher.

N. B. 2d October, conform to the act of burrows, the whole crafts, ilk ane, made choice of their Deacons, and this to stand yearly thereafter on Wednesday after the election of the Magistrates, which is yearly on Monday after Michaelmas. This order has been punctually observed ever since.

6th October, 1617.

Provost---David Lord Scone.

Bailies---Alexander Peblis, Charles Rollock, Andrew Conqueror, Robert Letham hammerman.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

Treasurer---Thomas Leisk merchant.

In his tour through some of the principal towns in Scotland, King James came to Perth on Saturday the 5th of July this year. A speech was delivered to him, in name of the town, by John Stewart merchant, exactly fitted to the King's taste, full of fulsome flattery. Immediately after, several elegant Latin poems were presented to his Majesty by merchants, and other gentlemen of Perth. James made this tour at the request of his bishops, who had persuaded him that every thing was prepared in Scotland for the reception of Prelacy and the English usages, and that they only wanted his presence to give weight to their decisions. But when he understood, by a protestation of more than fifty ministers, that things were far from being ripe, in a rage he called the bishops dolts and deceivers,

Digitized by Google

deceivers. To please him, they presented to the ministers convened the five articles which the next year were confirmed by the Assembly at Perth.

5th October, 1618.

Provost---David Lord Scone.

Bailies---Charles Rollock, David Sibbald, Andrew Conqueror, Patrick Grant skinner.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

Treasurer---Andrew Forbes hammerman.

The General Assembly met in the Old, or Saint John's Kirk in Perth, this year, on the 25th of August.

His Majesty's Commissioners were, Lord Binning secretary, Lord Scone and Lord Carnegy. Their assessors, Sir Gideon Murray treasurer-depute, Sir Andrew Ker of Fernihest captain of the guard, Sir William Oliphant King's Advocate, and Sir William Livingston of Kilsyth. Noblemen, the Earl of Lothian, Lords Ochiltree, Sanquhar, and Boyd. Barons Wauchton, Ludwharn, Glenurchy younger, Cluny-Gordon, Boningtown Wood, Weems, Balvaird, Balcomy, Balcarras, Balmanno, Bombie, Blackbarrony, and Lagg. Burgesses for Edinburgh, David Aikenhead and George Foulis. For Perth, James Aedie and Constantine Meliss. For Dundee, Mr Alexander Wedderburn younger, and Robert Clayhills. For Aberdeen, Mr John Mortimer. For Stirling, Christopher Alexander. For St Andrew's, John Knox and Thomas Lentron. For the University of St Andrew's, Dr Bruce. All the Bishops except Argyle and the Isles. Ministers, Commissioners from Presbyteries, or wanting commission.

A fast was appointed the first day of the Assembly, which

Digitized by Google

which was little regarded. Patrick Forbes of Corse, Bishop of Aberdeen, preached in the morning, on Ezra, chap. vii. verse 23. and asserted, that nothing should be done nor determined in the church by any superior power, but that which is according to the commandment of the Almighty King.

Archbishop Spottiswood preached in the Little Kirk, on 1 Cor. xi. and verse 16. He preached for two hours in defence of ceremonies in general, and of the five articles in particular. The sermon was printed. A confutation of them was also published.

The Assembly met in the Little Kirk. Mr Spotiswood, Archbishop of St Andrew's, placed himself in the Moderator's chair without election; which was objected to. The Archbishop answered, that the Assembly was convened within the bounds of his diocese, and he hoped no man would take his place.

The King's letter was read, full of expostulations and threatenings. His address was to the Right Reverend Fathers in God, Right Trusty Cousins and Counsellors, and others our trusty and well-beloved subjects. He says, "Do not think we will be satisfied with refusals, or delays, or mitigations, and we know not what other shifts have been proponed; for we will content ourselves with nothing but with a simple and direct acceptation of these articles, in the form by us sent unto you." The five articles, on account of which the Convocation, as the King names this Assembly, was called, are these, 1. Kneeling at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. 2. Private communion to sick people. 3. Private baptism. 4. Confirmation of children by the Bishop. 5. Observation of holidays.

These

Digitized by Google

These articles were afterwards confirmed by Parliament; the King exerting his royal prerogatives over the kirk, and his bullying the ministers, raised an universal murmur and dissatisfaction, while his Court-chaplains rained flattery upon him from the pulpit; yet he gained nothing in the establishment of his prerogative in ecclesiastical matters, but by mere dint of persecution, fines, and imprisonments. Many ministers were summoned before the High Commission-Court, and were fined, imprisoned, and banished. Among them was the Historian Calderwood, who was treated with great asperity for his obstinate opposition to the Articles. James, after personally examining him the year before at St Andrew's, and finding him very firm, had the meanness to order Spottiswood to tell him, that if he was not content to be suspended spiritually, he should be suspended corporally. His deprivation and baniſhment gave him leisure to write and publiſh his elaborate and learned *Altare Damascenum*, which vexed the King not a little.

4th October, 1619..

Provost---David Lord Scone.

Bailies---John Matthew of Balhousie, Constantine Meliss, Andrew Conqueror, Thomas Crombie fleſher.

Treasurer-- Adam Paterson merchant.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

2d October, 1620.

Provost—David Lord Scone.

Bailies—John Matthew of Balhousie, Charles Rollock, Andrew Brown, William Williamson baker.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—William Hall baker.

1st

1st October, 1621.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont, Lord Scone.

Bailies—John Mathew of Balhousie, Charles Rollock, David Sibbald, John Flemyng hammerman.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—John Anderson.

This year the town of Perth was in great danger by an extraordinary inundation. The following is the account, recorded in the Session-Register by the then minister, Mr John Malcom.

" Tuesday, 16th October, 1621.

" The council and elders being convened, have ordered an voluntary collection to be uplifted of the haill inhabitants, for declaration of their thankfulness to God for their deliverance from the fearful inundation of waters, threatening destruction both of the town and inhabitants, to be applied for the use of the poor. The manner whereof follows.

" *An Remembrance of God's Visitation of Perth.*

" It is to be noted and put in register in this book, the great and miraculous deliverance that the Lord gave to this brugh of Perth, of an fearful inundation of waters compassing the same on all parts, so that therethrough the brig of Tay was hailly dung down, except only one bow thereof standing. None could get furth of it, nor yet come within it, to make any relief thereto.

" The manner of the rising of the water was this, the rain began on Friday the 12th October, about ten hours of the day, it continued that day and Saturday, and in the night, unlooked for, the water rose so high, that all then that dwelt outwith the Castel-

Digitized by Google

tel-gavel port in laigh houses, the water increassed so, that they behoved to go to high houses for preservation of their lives; and being in high houses, the water rose to the loftings in the highest mid-houses in the Castel-gavel before six hours on Munday in the morning; and the wind and weet continuing, the water came up to Gilbert Henderson's yett (gate) in the Castel-gavel, and to Margaret Monypenny's yett in the Fish-market, to Donald Johnston's yett in the High-gate, to the Meal-vennal in the South-gate, and the water ran like miln-clouses, at the yetts of diverse parts on the north side of the High-gate. An great tempestuous wind at the east blew all this time. The water also came above Henry Sharp's shop in the Speygate. The like fearful inundation of water was never seen in no living man's rememberance, which brought the people under such fear, that they looked for nothing but to have been destroyed.

"Whereupon Mr John Malcom minister, powerfully endued with God's Spirit, caused ring the preaching bell on Sunday at seven hours of the morning, and the haill inhabitants came to the kirk; and there he exhorted them to repent for their sins, which had procured the said judgement of God to come upon the town; assuring them, that if they were truly penitent therefor, and would avow to God to amend their lives in time coming, God would avert his judgement, and give them deliverance, whose powerful exhortations moved the people to cry to God with tears, clamours, and cries, and to hold up their hands to God to amend their lives, and every one of them to abstain from their domestic sins.

"The like humiliation, both of men and women; has

Digitized by Google

has not been seen in Perth before nor since; preaching and praying continued all that week. Our pastor, with great magnanimity, insisted in exhorting the people to true repentance and amendment of their lives.

"The waters began to decrease afternoon on Monday (15th); but after day-light past, there arose a greater tempest of wind and rain than at any time before, which so affrighted the people that night, that they looked for nothing but the waters should have arisen to greater height nor they were of before. Notwithstanding thereof, miraculously, through the great mercy of God, by (without) all men's expectation, the water greatly in the mean time decreased: Which in the morning moved the people in the kirk, and all other places, to give most hearty thanks to God for his mercy towards them.

"Mr John Malcom proved the part of a faithful pastor to his flock, with great godly courage and magnanimity, to comfort them with the mercy of God.

"Great plenty of corns in all parts, both stacks and stooks, being on haughs and valley-ground, was carried away by the waters; and diverse ships by tempest perished, and horse, nolt, kye, and sheep were drowned."

30th September, 1622.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont.

Bailies—John Mathew of Balhousie, Charles Rollock, David Sibbald, Andrew Anderson skinner.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—Andrew Donaldson skinner.

6th

6th October, 1723.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont.

Bailies—Charles Rollock, Andrew Conqueror, Andrew Wilson, Thomas Johnston Bower.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—Mr Robert Mitchell *.

4th October, 1624.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont.

Bailies—Alexander Pebles, Andrew Conqueror, Andrew Wilson, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—Duncan Kay taylor.

3d October, 1625.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont.

Bailies—Alexander Peblis, John Anderson, Andrew Wilson, John Flemyng hammerman.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—Adam Paterson.

2d October, 1626.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont.

Bailies—Charles Rollock, Andrew Wilson, Mr Robert Mitchell, George Johnston skinner.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—John Maxton hammerman.

1st October, 1627.

Provost—David Viscount Stormont.

Bailies—Andrew Wilson, Robert Mitchel, Robert Arnot, Patrick Robertson.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Peblis.

Treasurer—Patrick Anderson merchant.

6th

* The persons in this list who have the addition of Master, had taken the degree of A. M. at the Universities.

Digitized by Google

6th October, 1628 *.

Provost—Alexander Peblis of Chapelhill.

Bailies—Andrew Gray, Robert Mitchell, Robert Arnot, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Wilson.

5th October, 1629.

Provost—Alexander Peblis of Chapelhill.

Bailies—Andrew Gray, Robert Mitchell, Robert Arnot, John Maxton.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Wilson.

Treasurer—Andrew Bell.

4th October, 1630.

Provost—Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies—Andrew Gray, Charles Rollock, Robert Mitchel, Adam Grant skinner.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Wilson.

Treasurer---Gregory Johnston skinner.

3d October, 1631.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---Andrew Gray, Robert Mitchel, John Anderson jun. Thomas Crambie fleſher.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Wilson.

Treasurer---Patrick Anderson.

1st October, 1632.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---Andrew Wilson, Robert Mitchel, John Anderson jun. John Henderson baker.

* We ought to obſerve, that on the 6th of October, 1628, Lord Stormont was elected Provost; but by a decree of the Lords of Secret Council, of the 21st of February, the election was declared illegal. The Viscount was laid aside, and Peblis of Chapelhill elected in his room. There were laws which prohibited noblemen or gentlemen not resident, nor bearing burden as citizens, to be elected into the magistracy.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

Treasurer---George Touch taylor.

30th September, 1632.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---Andrew Wilson, Robert Mitchel, John Anderson, Robert Leitham hammerman.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

Treasurer—Thomas Durham.

This year, Charles I. came to Scotland with a splendid retinue, to receive the crown of this kingdom, and he thought that coronation was an indispensable ceremony. He was at this time entirely in the hands of Laud, and was glad of so plausible a pretext for visiting Scotland in person, that he might carry that zealot's scheme into execution. The Scots nobility had, for some time, warded off this visit with abundance of address; but Charles was now resolved to render it as splendid as possible; and in all events to carry with him Laud, to serve him as the director of his conscience.

His entry into Perth is recorded in the register kept by the Glover-calling, as follows: "His Majesty King Charles, of his gratious favour and love, denzeit (condescended) himself to vizit his own city and burgh of Perth, the eight day of July, quhair, at the entrie of our South Inch port, he was receivet honourablie, be the Provest, Bailzies, and Aldermen, and be delivery of an speache mounting to his praize, and thanksgiving, for his Majestie's coming to viseit this our city, wha stayit upon horse-backe, and heard the sameyn patientlie, and therefra, convoyeit be our young men in guard, with partizans clad in red and whyte, to his ludging at the end of the

Digitized by Google

the South-gate, (Gowrie's palace), belonging now heritablie to George Earl of Kinnoul, Heigh Chancellor of Scotland, &c. The morrow thairefter came to our churche, and in his royal seat heard ane reverand sermone, immediately thairefter came to his ludgeing, and went downe to the gardine thairof, his Majeſtie being thayre set upon the wall next the wattir of Tay, quhair uppone was ane fleeting ſtaige of tymber, cled about with birks, upon the quhilke, for his Majeſtie's welcome and entrie, threttein of our brethren, of this our calling of Glovers, with green cappis, silver ſtrings, red ribbons, quhyte shoes, and bells about thair leggis, shewing raperis in thair handis, and all uther abulzement, dauncit our sword-daunce, with mony deficile knottis, fyve being under, and fyve above, upone thair shoulderis, three of theme dauncing through thair feet and about them, drinking wine and breking glaſſes. Quhilk (God be praisit) wes actit and done without hurt or ſkaith till any. Quhilk drew us till greit chairges and expensis, amounting to the sowme of 350 merks, yet not to be rememberit, because graciouslie acceptit be our Sovereine, and both estatis, to our honour and great commendation."

6th October, 1634.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---Andrew Wilson, Alexander Inglis, Thomas Durham, Patrick Dundee ſkinner.

Dean of Guild---Andrew Gray.

Treasurer---William Ray.

5th October, 1635.

Provost---Andrew Gray.

Digitized by Google

Bailies—Andrew Wilson, Robert Mitchel, Alexander Inglis, George Touch taylor.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Durham.

Treasurer—Patrick Anderson.

3d October, 1636.

Provost—Alexander Pebles of Chapelhill.

Bailies—Andrew Wilson, Robert Mitchel, Alexander Inglis, William Hall baker.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Durham.

Treasurer—William Hall baker.

2d October, 1637.

Provost—Alexander Pebles.

Bailies—Robert Mitchell, Alexander Inglis, John Anderson, George Fleming hammerman.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Durham.

Treasurer—Patrick Anderson.

1st October, 1638.

Provost—Alexander Pebles.

Bailies—Robert Mitchel, Alexander Inglis, Robert Burrel, Patrick Dundee skinner.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Durham.

Treasurer—John Anderson skinner.

30th September, 1639.

Provost—Robert Arnot.

Bailies—Alexander Inglis, Robert Burrel, John Pitcairn, Patrick Robertson.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Durham.

Treasurer—Andrew Grant.

5th October, 1640.

Provost—Robert Arnot.

Bailies—Thomas Durham, John Anderson, John Pitcairn, George Carmichael baker.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer

Digitized by Google

Treasurer---George Wilson flesher.

5th October, 1641.

Provost—Robert Arnot.

Bailies—Thomas Durham, John Anderson, George Bisset, William Ray hammerman.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer—Andrew Grant.

3d October, 1642.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---John Anderson, George Bisset, Patrick Anderson, Patrick Dundee skinner.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Durham.

Treasurer---Henry Rollock saddler.

2d October, 1643.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---John Anderson, George Bisset, Patrick Anderson, George Wilson flesher.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Durham.

Treasurer---Andrew Grant.

30th September, 1644.

Provost---Robert Arnot.

Bailies---Robert Burrel, John Mercer, Andrew Grant, George Carmichael.

Dean of Guild---Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer---William Hall baker.

In a manuscript by a citizen of Perth, there is the following passage.

"July 2. 1644. The Earl of Montrose having ranversed his former course and proceedings (he had joined the Covenanters), and ay being highly minded, upon discontentments mindit be him of his honour and places, fled again into England, quitted his country, and joined with his Majestie's forces, and took occasion

Digitized by Google

casion with them, and surprised Dumfries, took the Provost prisoner, and Captain Harie Drummond of Pitcairn's troop of horse. This troop was taken through neglect, the Captain having gone home on his lady's delivery of a child, having committed the charge to his Lieutenant, who neglected to give orders for a watch; for this neglect he was carried prisoner to Edinburgh, and adjudged by the committee of estates. Thereafter Montrose was beat and dung back by Sir John Brown of Fordel, with his troops.

"In August, 1644, Alexander M'Donald, *alias* Alaster M'Leod, *alias* Colcattochie's son, who came from Ireland with an army against the Marquis of Argyle, landed with his ships in the Isle of Sky. He thereafter went out of his Lordship's way, and never rested all his way through the west isles, in Lochaber, until he came to Badenoch, unknown to the country people, and encamped there on Friday the 22d of August at night. Next night he pitched at Ballichroan, where he rested Saturday and Sunday. His army was about 3000; he laid waste all the country around, and drove the cattle into his camp, and set fire to the houses, and burnt and destroyed the standing corn, and carried away the choice young men, and pressed them into his service. From thence he passed through Glenshee into Athol, and raised all the able-bodied men. He joined Montrose at Blair castle, whom he found dressed in Highland weed, and in his pocket the King's warrand and commission as Lieutenant-General of his Majesty's forces in Scotland, and a commission to him to be Lieutenant-Colonel. Encouraged by this junction of forces, they raised the country, came by Haly-milne, where all Strathern and

Digitized by Google

and Monteith, the Grahams and Drummonds joined them, their commission warranding them to raise the country by fire and sword where they were opposed.

" Upon Sunday the first day of September, 1644, an army of all this country forces of Perth and out of Fife, both horse and foot, amounting to the number of 6000, or thereby, and Montrose and Calcatochie's forces, consisting of 3 or 4000, or thereby. This being a terrible day not to be forgotten, they fought on the muir above Cultmalindy, called Lamerkin Muir, betwixt twelve and two afternoon, or in the space of an half hour, Montrose's forces, with Mac-Leod's Irish, being one (joined), they got the victory, and many of our people and of Fife were killed, and the dead bodies were stripped naked and left on the ground, about 3 or 400. Among them the young laird of Rires in Fife, Patrick Oliphant younger of Bachilton, George Haliburton of Keilor in Angus, David Grant, captain for the burgh of Perth, Alexander Ramsay, John Duff, and Andrew Anderson, with many brave men from Fife, the burghs of St Andrew's, Cupar, and Kirkcaldy, and other towns, and sundrie from the landward parishes of the shire of Perth. In which battle were from the Glover calling, Patrick Watson, Thomas Dundee, Henry Paul, Andrew Kinnaird, Alexander Hutton, Alexander Nairn, Patrick Ingles, George Auchinleck, Andrew Mortimer, Andrew Gall, Robert Lamb, John Measone, Andrew Anderson ensign, and Alexander Drummond lieutenant, who were all safe. After the battle, our people fled to all quarters, and these who fled into the town were made prisoners, and forced to march with Montrose. The town was surrounded

Digitized by Google

that night, and surrendered because not able to sustain a siege for want of commanders. Upon Tuesday and Wednesday thereafter, the 3d and 4th of September, they marched over the Tay to Angus, and took all the cannon, magazine, and spoil of the town with them to the north. Thereafter, upon Tuesday the 10th of September, the Marquis of Argyle came from Stirling to Perth with about 1000 men, who marched through the town all that week in pursuit of Montrose, and went over the river Tay in boats left undestroyed by Montrose. James Stewart of Ardvorlich, on the 6th of September, slew Lord Kilpont at Colace, because he had joined Montrose."

5th October, 1645.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---George Bisset, John Mercer, Andrew Grant, William Ray.

Dean of Guild---Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer---John Conqueror.

6th October, 1646.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---George Bisset, Patrick Anderson, John Conqueror, Patrick Dundee skinner.

Dean of Guild---Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer---George Dury skinner.

4th October, 1647.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies---John Mercer, John Conqueror, Andrew Butter, Archibald Lamb taylor.

Dean of Guild---Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer---John Paterson.

2d October, 1648.

Provost---Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies—John Conqueror, Andrew Butter, John Paterson, Robert Jackson.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer—Archibald Lamb.

2d October, 1649.

Provost—Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies—John Mercer, Andrew Butter, John Paterson, Henry Rollock.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Inglis.

Treasurer—David Sharp.

1st October, 1650.

Provost—Andrew Grant of Balhagils.

Bailies—Patrick Anderson, John Paterson, Patrick Ross, Robert Pitcairn glover.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Butter.

Treasurer—John Sharp hammerman.

2d October, 1651.

Provost—Andrew Grant of Balhagils.

Bailies—John Mercer, John Conqueror, John Paterson, Patrick Brown.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Butter.

Treasurer—Robert Anderson.

Upon the 1st of January, King Charles, after solemnly swearing to and subscribing the national covenant and solemn league, was crowned at Scone by Mr Robert Douglas, Moderator of the General Assembly. Andrew Reid, merchant in Perth, paid about forty thousand merks of the coronation-expences, for which he received the King's bond for payment.

July 6. By order of the King, the whole citizens of Perth marched out to the South Inch, where they chearfully made choice of a hundred men, who were to march to Burntisland to watch the motions of Cromwell's

Digitized by Google

Cromwell's fleet and army. Their officers were Andrew Butter captain, John Davidson lieutenant, and James Dykes ensign. This company joined a detachment from the army at Dumfermling, of 3000 men, who, on the 20th of July, were posted on Innerkeithing hill, commanded by Major-General Sir John Brown of Fordel, and Major-General Holburne of Menstrie. They were engaged by a superior number of Cromwell's army, who debarked in the Frith, and routed our army. Holburne escaped; Brown was taken prisoner, and sent to the castle of Edinburgh. Sixteen hundred foot were killed, and twelve hundred were taken at Innerkeithing and Dumfermling, with fifty-two drums, colours, and bagpipes. The English were commanded by Lambert. The Perth officers marched with the remains of their company to Perth, and Lieutenant Davidson shut the gates of the city. Shortly after, the King, on the head of the royal army, marched from Stirling to England.—Cromwell and Lambert advanced with their troops to Perth, and lay one night at Fordel, and drove in their horses among General Brown's standing corn. Next day Cromwell sat down before Perth with his army, and found the gates shut. John Davidson, a bold and enterprising gentleman, ordered carts to drive up and down the streets, and a drum to beat continually through the town, and at all the ports, to deceive the English generals. The town being summoned to surrender, Cromwell offered honourable terms, which were accepted, and the gates thrown open. The Provost, Andrew Grant of Balhagils (Murray's hall), attended the English officers, and conducted them to John Davidson's house, where, after an entertainment,

Digitized by Google

ment, Cromwell asked the Provost, how, in his defenceless situation, he proposed to keep him at the gates. The Provost simply answered, that they designed to stand out until they heard that the King was in England. Cromwell, with a sneer, called him a silly body, and below his notice; but said, if he had time he would hang Davidson. Andrew Reid, whom I mentioned before, came in, and was introduced to Cromwell, to whom he presented the bond granted by King Charles to him. Cromwell returned it, and said he had nothing to do with it, as he neither was Charles's heir nor executor. To whom Reid replied, "If your Excellency is neither heir nor executor, you are surely a vicious intromittor (intermedler)." Cromwell turning to the company, declarad that he never had such a bold tale told him. The bond is yet to be seen in the hands of some of Mr Reid's descendants. Immediately after Cromwell's departure from Mr Davidson's house, the side-wall fell down, and Davidson said he wished it had fallen a quarter of an hour sooner, though he, Sampson like, had perished in the ruins. Davidson had great possessions in the town, was a public notary, and fiscal of court. He translated and illuminated the town's charters; some copies, written by his hand, are extant among the incorporations of trades, with gilded capitals. His progenitors founded the chaplainry of St Leonard's, and endowed it with a stipend out of their lands. The lineal representatives of that family are called Vicars of St Leonard's, and reserved their title to the benefice. John Davidson gave a tack of the lands of St Leonard's to Campbell of Aberuchell, for a charging horse to fight against Cromwell. He afterwards sold them

to

Digitized by Google

to the Glover-incorporation. Patrick Davidson, afterwards Provost, was his heir and successor. To him succeeded his son Patrick, laird of Woodmiln, whose son Patrick, an officer in the army, died unmarried.

4th October, 1652.

Provost—Andrew Butter.

Bailies—John Mercer, John Conqueror, William Reoch, Robert Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild—John Paterson.

Treasurer—Alexander Jackson.

19th April, 1653.

In obedience to a commission from the Commissioners of the Commonwealth of England, were elected,

Provost—Robert Arnot of Benchils.

Bailies—John Mercer, John Paterson, John Conqueror, Patrick Brown.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Butter.

Treasurer—Robert Anderson.

3d October, 1653.

In obedience to a letter from Robert Lilburn, commander in chief, from Dalkeith, the Magistrates and Council were continued, excepting the Treasurer, Robert Anderson, in whose room was chosen,

William Sharp maltman.

2d October, 1654.

Provost—Robert Arnot.

Bailies—John Mercer, John Paterson, John Conqueror, Patrick Brown.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Butter.

Treasurer—William Sharp.

1st

Digitized by Google

1st October, 1655.

Provost—Andrew Butter.

Bailies—William Reoch, Henry Chaip, Patrick Anderson, George Wilson.

Dean of Guild—John Paterson.

Treasurer—James Dykes.

24th September, 1655.

Declaration of his Highness's Council in Scotland, for Elections.

"Whereas, by an ordinance of his Highness the Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, bearing date the 12th April, 1654, Scotland is united unto our commonwealth with England, and therein it appears, that the shires and burghs of Scotland, by their deputies convened at Dalkeith, and again at Edinburgh, did, before the then Commissioners of Parliament, accept of the said union, and assent thereto, and did promise to live peaceably under, and in obedience to the authority of the commonwealth of England exercised in Scotland. And whereas, by another ordinance of his Highness, entitled," An ordinance of pardon and grace to the people Scotland," it is desired that they may be made equal sharers with England in the present settlement of peace, liberty, and property, with all other privileges of a free people. The Council, in pursuance thereof, taking all the premises into their consideration, as also the many prejudices that may arise to the good people, burgesses, and inhabitants of the several cities, burghs, and incorporations within this nation, from the want of the due nomination and election of their

Digitized by Google

their respective Magistrates, according to their laws and customs. And to the end that the inhabitants of the said burghs, cities, and towns, may receive all due encouragement, and have government and justice righteously administered unto them, do declare, That all prohibitions as to the election of Magistrates are taken off, and that all cities, burghs, and towns, incorporate in Scotland, to whom the privilege of chusing their Magistrates belongs, may from henceforth meet and convene for that end, within their respective cities, burghs, and towns, and therefore proceed to the due and lawful nomination and election of their respective Magistrates, wherein the said Council expects due and particular care shall be taken that no person be chosen who is dangerous to the commonwealth, disaffected to the present government, or scandalous in life and conversation; which persons qualified, duly elected and chosen, are and shall be the Magistrates for the ensuing year: And the Council do likewise farther declare, that in case this declaration shall not come so soon to all the burghs, that they may elect their Magisrates by the time limited in their charters respective; that in such case such burghs not having such timely notice, may proceed to the election of their Magistrates that day fortnight. Provided always, that in the oath of their faithful administration of justice, and in all other cases where formerly the name and style of King, or keepers of the liberties of England, has been used in the exercise of the foresaid government of the said cities, burghs, or towns, the name of his Highness the Lord Protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and

Digitized by Google

and Ireland, and the dominions thereto belonging, be inserted and used.

"EMANUEL DOUNING,
"Clerk of the Council."

24th September, 1665.

1st October, 1656.

Provost—Andrew Butter.

Bailies—William Reoch, Henry Chaip of Ormiston, Patrick Anderson of Tullilumb, Robert Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild—John Paterson.

Treasurer—Archibald Lamb.

5th October, 1657.

Provost—Andrew Butter.

Bailies—William Reoch, Henry Chaip of Ormiston, David Murray apothecary, Andrew Gray hammerman.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Anderson of Tullilumb.

Treasurer—Patrick Threipland.

21st September, The Town-council ordained, and the Provost, Bailies, Deacons of Crafts, &c. subscribed the decree.

1. That every person who shall be admitted burgess and guild-brother shall pay one hundred pounds Scots, if he has not served his apprenticeship, or married a burgess's daughter in her pure virginity, the one half to be uplifted by the Town-treasurer, and the other half by the Guild-treasurer.

2. Every person, who shall be admitted burgess only, shall pay to the town-treasurer forty pounds Scots, together with the dues formerly paid by the said burges and guild-brother to the guildrie.

3. Each

Digitized by Google

3. Each tradesman's apprentice shall pay for his booking in the guild-book, forty shillings Scots to the guild-treasurer, having served five years from the date of his entry.

4. Producing his maſter's discharge of his indenture and apprenticeship, he shall be admitted burgess and guild-brother for payment of twenty pounds Scots, the one half to the town-treasurer, and the other half to the guild-treasurer, with the former dues.

5. Every tradesman to pay for his up-sett, four pounds Scots, to be divided equally betwixt the town and guildrie treasurers, and the town-treasurer is ordered to attend the admission of every burgess and guild-brother.

4th October, 1658.

Provost---Andrew Butter of Gormach.

Bailies---William Reoch, David Murray, James Dykes, Henry Jacksone glover.

Dean of Guild---Mr John Paterson.

Treasurer---Matthew Chaip sadler.

3d October, 1659.

Provost—John Paterson of Benchils.

Bailies—Patrick Threipland, William Jackson, John Lamb, Patrick Bell taylor.

Dean of Guild—James Dykes.

Treasurer—Alexander Rankyn.

1ſt October, 1660.

Provost---Mr John Paterson.

Bailies—James Dykes, John Lamb, Alexander Rankyn, Alexander Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild---Patrick Threipland.

Treasurer---Andrew Walker baker.

30th

Digitized by Google

30th September, 1661.

Provost—Andrew Grant of Balhagils.

Bailies—Patrick Threipland, John Lamb, Alexander Rankyn, Henry Rollo saddler.

Dean of Guild—James Dykes.

Treasurer—John Wilson.

30th September, 1662.

Provost—Andrew Butter.

Bailies—Patrick Threipland, John Lamb, Alexander Rankyn, John Anderson glover.

Dean of Guild—James Dykes.

Treasurer—Andrew Anderson.

Declaration appointed to be signed by all Persons in public trust, conform to the Act of Parliament, dated 5th September, 1662.

"We, the Provost, Bailies, Dean of Guild, Treasurer, Council, and Deacons of Crafts of the burgh of Perth, under subscribing, sincerely affirm and declare, that we judge it unlawful in subjects, upon pretence of reformation, or other pretence whatsoever, to enter into leagues and covenants, or to take up arms against the King, or those commissioned by him; and that all these gatherings, convocations, petitions, protestations, and erecting and keeping council-tables, that were used in the beginning and for carrying on of the late troubles, were unlawful and seditious, and particularly that those oaths, whereof the one was called the National Covenant, as it was sworn and explained in the year 1638 and thereafter, and the other entituled a Solemn League and Covenant, were, and are in themselves, unlawful oaths, and were taken by and imposed upon the subjects of

Digitized by Google

this kingdom, against the fundamental laws and liberties of the same; and that there lieth no obligation upon us, or any of the subjects, from the said oaths, or either of them, to endeavour any change or alteration of the government, either in church or state, as it is now established by the laws of the kingdom."

The original subscriptions of the Magistrates and Town-council to the above declaration, remain in the records of the town at the year 1662.

5th October, 1663.

Provost—Andrew Butter.

Bailies—William Jackson, Alexander Rankyn, William Sharp, Patrick Bell taylor.

Dean of Guild—John Lamb.

Treasurer—James Scioch.

5th October, 1664.

Provost—Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—David Jackson, John Wilson, Patrick Urchart, Alexander Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild—William Sharp.

Treasurer—William Cree taylor.

2d October, 1665.

Provost—Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—John Wilson, Patrick Urchart, John Glas, Henry Rollock saddler.

Dean of Guild—William Sharp.

Treasurer—George Conqueror.

1st October, 1666.

Provost—Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—John Wilson, John Glas, Alexander Orme, John Anderson glover.

Dean of Guild—William Sharp.

Treasurer—Robert Gairdner goldsmith.

1st

Digitized by Google

1st October, 1667.

Provost—Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—John Glas, Alexander Orme, George Conqueror, Patrick Bell taylor.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—Alexander Jamieson.

George Robertson glover gave in a supplication to the Council, desiring some consideration for a house without the Castle-gavel Port, which was burnt by order of the Council in 1645, for preventing the spreading of the plague in that place. The Council, considering that the said George Robertson is indebted to the town for 180 merks, the remainder of the duty of the Castle-gavel Port for the year 1640, they unanimously agree to discharge him of that sum.

6th October, 1668.

Provost—Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—John Glas, Alexander Orme, George Conqueror, Patrick Bell taylor.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—Alexander Jamison.

The Magistrates made an agreement this year with Robert Mylne of Balfargie, the King's master-mason, to rebuild the cross, which was taken away for building the citadel. Mr Mylne was ordered to build a cross as elegant as any in Scotland, for which he was to receive L. 200 Sterling.

4th October, 1669.

Provost—Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—John Glas, Alexander Orme, Alexander Jamison, Henry Rollock saddler.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—Henry Anderson.

Digitized by Google

On the 24th of May, George Jackson treasurer is ordered to pay to Robert Mylne, the King's master-mason, for building the cross, 4000 merks, Mr Mylne paying the scaffolding and carriage of stones, and ordered a gratuity of 20 merks to his masons.

The Magistrates issued an order to write to the Lord Lyon for a licence to Charles Wilson to gild the new cross, adorned with the royal arms, and those of the town of Perth.

29th of May being the anniversary of the Restoration, the treasurer was appointed to cover the terrace of the new cross with a carpet, and to prepare glasses and two gallons (Scots) of French wine, to be drunk and run out of the mouths of lions, bears, griffins, and other heads with which the cross was ornamented.

3d October, 1670.

Provost—George Threipland.

Bailies—John Glas, Alexander Jamison, Andrew Jackson, Patrick Johnston glover.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—John Kinnaird.

Provost Threipland procured an act of Parliament for a fifth market, to be held yearly 9th October, called St Dionis's fair.

6th October, 1671.

Provost—Patrick Threipland of Fingask.

Bailies—John Wilson, Alexander Jamison, Andrew Jackson, Patrick Bell taylor.

Dean of Guild—John Glas.

Treasurer—Patrick Anderson.

30th September, 1672.

Provost—Patrick Threipland of Fingask.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies—William Sharp, Alexander Jamison, Andrew Jackson, Alexander Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—William Cree.

30th September, 1673.

Provost—Patrick Threipland of Fingask.

Bailies—William Sharp, Andrew Jackson, Henry Anderson, Matthew Chaip saddler.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—Thomas Craigdallie dyer.

The Council, as a free gratuity, gave to Mr James Gregory L.100 Scots, to encourage him for setting up a mathematical school in St Leonard's College at St Andrew's, and to assist him to build an observatory.

5th October, 1674.

Provost—Sir Patrick Threipland of Fingask.

Bailies—Henry Anderson, Archibald Chrystie, Thomas Craigdallie, John Kinnaird glover.

Dean of Guild—Andrew Jackson.

Treasurer—Patrick Gow hammerman.

4th October, 1675.

Provost—Archibald Chrystie.

Bailies—Henry Anderson, William Sharp, Thomas Craigdallie, Alexander Crookshank shoemaker.

Dean of Guild—John Wilson.

Treasurer—Robert Swan.

16th March, 1676.

By a warrand from the Lords of Secret Council, were chosen and reponed,

Provost—Sir Patrick Threipland.

Bailies—Henry Anderson, James Shioch, David Monteith, Patrick Bell taylor.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---Andrew Jackson.

Treasurer---Robert Swan maltman.

Provost Threipland receives thanks from the Chancellor for his diligence in punishing the keepers of conventicles.

The Council met the 11th of October, and, in one voice, for avoiding the great confusion still threatened, and giving suitable satisfaction to the inhabitants, who complain highly upon the long continuance of the Provost, Bailies, and Dean of Guild; and, in compliance with the act of Parliament anent the duration of magistrates in office, and seconded with a ratification in the acts of burroughs, and in imitation of the laudable custom in other royal burroughs, statute and ordain, That in all time coming, no Provost, Dean of Guild, or Bailie, shall continue any longer in the said offices than for two years together; and for making the same more effectual, and to remain unalterable, the members of Council present have solemnly sworn never to vote contrary to the nature of this present act; and they appoint those of the Council not present, and who shall succeed from time to time, to give their oath to do nothing contrary to the present condescension, so soon as they appear in Council.

The Council and every person present, after acknowledging the late election of Magistrates and Council to have been orderly gone about, and that notwithstanding of several persons, members of the Council, being chosen, yet upon account of some discontent, and disregarding the authority of the Provost, citing them to appear this day, do judge the not appearance of the members of Council not here present,

Digitized by Google

present, to proceed from a downright disrespect to authority, and therefore they appoint the six persons absent to be cited personally to appear the next council-day, to vote in what affairs shall concern the town; certifying them, if they appear not, to forfeit their right as burgesses in time coming.

18th October. The Council appoints Bailie Thomas Craigdallie to repair to Edinburgh, and give a true account to the Lords of Privy Council, and other persons of quality, of the form and manner of the last election, that the misrepresentation of Sir Patrick Threipland, late Provost, may not harbour with them as truth.

11th November. The following Counsellors were cited to take their places, Andrew Jackson, John Threipland, James Schioch, David Monteith, James Duncan, Mr John Orme, and John Clunie, and, if they appear not, their places to be declared vacant, and new Counsellors chosen.

2d November. The Council met to elect a Provost, in room of Provost Chrystie, and for filling up the Merchant Council, in room of the before-mentioned members, who refuse to own their authority. They elect David Murray apothecary, Patrick Hay, Alexander Blair, William Johnston, David Jackson, John M'Ghie, and Alexander Whyte, and continue Sir Patrick Threipland. These all subscribed the declaration, and asserted his Majesty's royal title, upon oath.

John Wilson, Preses, inquired of Patrick Hay, if he was a freeman in the incorporation of hammermen, or anywise incapacitated from sitting as a Merchant-Counsellor? He declared he had a complement of

Digitized by Google

that nature from the hammermen, but studied no benefit by it, either for himself or his posterity. Robert Gairn, for himself, as deacon of the hammermen, and in name of that incorporation, disowned him as a freeman.

The Council unanimously made choice of Patrick Hay to be Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner, till next Michaelmas; and the whole Council swore not to vote for the continuance of the Magistrates above two years.

2d October, 1676.

Provost—Andrew Jackson.

Bailies—James Schioch, Robert Swan, James Stewart, James Young baker.

Dean of Guild—David Monteith elder.

Treasurer—Alexander Gray baker.

1st October, 1677.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—Patrick Hay.

Bailies—James Schioch, Robert Swan, George Aiken, Robert Garden goldsmith.

Dean of Guild—David Monteith.

Treasurer—John Donaldson.

30th September, 1678.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—Patrick Hay.

Bailies—David Monteith senior, George Aiken, John Donaldson, John Kinnaird glover.

Dean of Guild—John Glas.

Treasurer—Walter Faichney glover.

4th February, 1679.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—Robert Lundie.

Bailies—Robert Smyth, James Saunders, John Donaldson, John Kinnaird glover.

Dean of Guild—John Glas.

Treasurer

Digitized by Google

Treasurer---Walter Falchney,

4th February. By a decreet of the Privy Council, Provost Hay, Bailies Monteith and Aiken, were declared incapable to bear office for three years.

May 26. The Council ordains the Treasurer to pay the expences of the Magistrates in attending the funeral of Archbishop Sharp at St Andrew's.

December 29. The act of Privy Council of 4th February, incapacitating Provost Hay, Bailies Monteith and Aiken, was annulled.

19th March, 1680. The Council ordains all coals to be sold by weight. The Provost and Dean of Guild are desired to use their interest with the Marquis of Tullibardin, to put a stop to the proceedings of his deputy, who had fined several of the inhabitants for attending conventicles; and if no stay can be procured, the Council empowers them to go immediately to Edinburgh, and suspend the Sheriff-deputy's decreet.

10th May. The Provost and Dean of Guild report, that they had waited on the Marquis of Tullibardin, who condescended to cause his deputy delay the execution of the letters of horning against the inhabitants who were fined on account of the conventicles, until the 14th of next June; and, in the mean time, that the town should choose an advocate, and he another, for considering anent the fines imposed.

29th September, 1679.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Robert Lundie.

Bailies---John Donaldson, Robert Smyth, James Saunders, Thomas Black wright.

Dean of Guild---John Glas.

Treasurer---James Cree merchant.

4th

Digitized by Google

4th October, 1680.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---John Glas.

Bailies----Alexander Blair, James Cree, John Watson, Alexander Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild---John Donaldson maltman.

Treasurer---Matthew Wilson wright.

3d October, 1681.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---John Glas.

Bailies---Alexander Blair, James Cree, John Watson, Robert Gairne gun-smith.

Dean of Guild---John Donaldson.

Treasurer---William Paton.

19th December. The Council having the subscribed opinion of Sir George M'Kenzie, King's Advocate, concerning some members of Council elected at last Michaelmas, who refused to act, that the Council might lawfully elect others in their room, accordingly, by plurality of votes, made choice of David Monteith, late Dean of Guild, David Whyte, and Henry Dal, merchants, in place of Provost Lundie, Bailie Smith, and Bailie Saunders, who were elected, and deserted the house; also have chosen out of the leet given in by the glovers, in place of Robert Boig, who was elected, and also deserted the house, Patrick Johnston, late Bailie, who accepted. They all took the oath and test enjoined by act of Parliament.

1st October, 1682.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Patrick Hay.

Bailies---John Donaldson, William Blair, George Aiken, Patrick Johnston glover.

Dean of Guild---Alexander Blair of Corbs.

Treasurer---John Henry hammerman.

16th January, Mr John Wylie, one of the doctors

ters of the grammar-school, refusing to take the test before the Presbytery, the Moderator complained to the Provost. Mr Wylie was cited before the Council, who declared that he had not freedom to take the oath and test, and demitted his office.

1st October, 1683.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—Patrick Hay.

Bailies—John Donaldson, William Blair, George Aiken, Thomas Black wright.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Blair of Corbs.

Treasurer—David Monteith.

Mr John Sibbald, tacksman of the Common Muir, being convicted by the Sheriff-deputy of keeping conventicles, is ordered by the Magistrates to be prosecuted *.

29th September, 1684.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—John Glas.

Bailies—Alexander Blair, David Monteith, William Whyte, Alexander Jackson baker.

Dean of Guild—William Blair apothecary.

Treasurer—Robert Balvaird baker.

This and the preceding year are marked with violent prosecutions against those of the Presbyterian persuasion who were called Recusants, and had not freedom to attend worship, nor join in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. They withdrew, and met together

* Ramsay, the Sheriff-deputy, has left an unsavoury remembrance of himself among the old inhabitants of Perth, for his cruelty in distressing those whose consciences would not allow them to conform and attend the kirk. This gentleman is said to have outlived himself, until he was universally despised in Perth. He died in 1728.

Digitized by Google

ther privately. These assemblies were called Conventicles.

At this period the Magistracy of Perth was formed by the Privy Council, and every suspected person was disqualified. Severals were cited before the Kirk-session for attending conventicles, and put in the hands of the civil magistrate, to be punished for recusancy.

5th October, 1685.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—John Glas.

Bailies—David Monteith junior, William Whyte, George Oliphant, Robert Gairne goldsmith.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Blair of Corbs.

Treasurer—David White merchant, who died soon after, and David Murray dyer was elected in his room.

20th September, 1686.

A letter was produced from the Earl of Perth, Chancellor, prohibiting the Magistrates to proceed to a new election, and the Magistrates and Council to continue until his Majesty's pleasure is known.

3d December, 1686.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner—John Glas.

Bailies—George Oliphant, David Murray, Alexander White, Patrick Johnston glover.

Dean of Guild—William White.

Treasurer—John Young glover.

The Magistrates and whole Council were nominated by the King, who, by his letter of the 20th September, produced by the Earl of Perth, Chancellor, prohibited the Council to meet for the election of Magistrates until his Majesty's pleasure should be known. The Marquis of Athol was appointed to attend in the council-house, and see this nomination obeyed, and that

Digitized by Google

that the Magistrates and every member should solemnly take the test, which they all servilely did.

6th October, 1687.

By the King's order the following Magistrates were nominated, and Lord Kinnaird was appointed to superintend the election,

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Sir Patrick Threipland.

Bailies---David Murray, John Threipland, Henry Deas, Charles Melvil taylor.

Dean of Guild--James Stuart.

Treasurer---Patrick Stuart.

May 1st, 1688.

By a warrant from the Convention of States for electing the Magistrates, the following were chosen by the voice of the whole Burgesses,

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Robert Smyth.

Bailies---James Crie, George Oliphant, William Flemyng, Robert Young baker.

Dean of Guild---Alexander Blair of Corbs.

Treasurer---John Cunningham.

The Council ordered their Treasurer, Patrick Robertson, to write and desire Mr Mylne, the King's master-mason, to send, upon the town's expences, two men he had recommended to them for finding out coal in the Common Muir.

May 14. The Council orders the Treasurer to bestow upon Alexander Steel 1000 merks, to defray expences in finding out coal in the Town's Muir.

June 25. The Council, by plurality of votes, empowers Sir Patrick Threipland, their Provost, to cause insert in the next year's Almanack, on the town's expences, that their old race, the Bell Race, formerly kept

Digitized by Google

kept and run on the South Inch, upon the Monday after Palm-Sunday market, yearly, is to be kept and run upon the said day in all time coming, for a silver cup, and other prizes formerly run for.

September 24. The King's letter of the 13th, from Sir William Paterson, suspending the election of Magistrates, and ordering them and the Council to continue until his Majesty's further pleasure be made known, was read.

The Council, in pursuance of a proclamation of his Majesty's Privy Council, appointing rendezvous of the militia regiments in several shires, whereof Perth is one, and calling the heritors to meet the 18th September 1688; and as James Saunders, Captain li u tenant of the Perth company, is dead, they have appointed James Stewart, Dean of Guild, and Charles Melvil, Trade's Bailie, to command the company, and repair next day to Auchterarder, and deliver up the company to Sir John Drummond of Machany, and, in his absence, to James Graham of Orchil. The Council appoints the guildry and trades to draw out their men by twelve o'clock, under the foresaid command, and the drum to go round the town for that effect *.

1689.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Robert Smyth.

Bailies--George Oliphant, David Monteith, William Flemyng, Robert Gardner goldsmith.

Dean

* Little was to be feared from raising the generality of the Scotch militia to operate against the Prince of Orange's invasion. Their long slavery, both civil and ecclesiastical, prepared them to receive William with open arms. This æra of liberty was, in Scotland, the downfall of ecclesiastical tyranny.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—James Cree.

Treasurer—Charles Stewart.

18th February. This day protestation being entered by Bailie Deas, that all members of this house should purge themselves of Popery, and that none should continue in their station, but such as are true Protestants conform to the Prince of Orange's *declaration*, and who give due obedience thereto, and who let it appear to God and the world. Sir Patrick Threipland most frankly gave his oath in face of Council, as he should answer to God, that he is a true Protestant, and that he never was, neither is, nor never shall be Popish.

This protestation put the house in confusion, by the conduct of James Stewart, late Dean of Guild, who menaced, threatened, and abused the Provost and Bailie Deas, for desiring him to purge himself of Popery, whom they asserted to be of that persuasion by Bailie Deas's information, who said he heard him confess that sixteen years ago he took mass at London, and since that time he has been frequently at the Popish worship, particularly in summer last at Stobhall, and before that time, and since at the Abbey of Edinburgh, and in London last summer, when he was there on pretence of going to the baths, and that he was introduced to the King by Father Peters, and that he brought down with him by sea, in the ship wherein Bailie Thriepland and he were passengers, two Popish priests, whom, after he landed, he attended to Edinburgh, and delivered them to the Lord Chancellor. Upon these, and other grounds of suspicion, they urged him that he should either purge himself of being Popish, or demit his office, which he

Digitized by Google

he declined, until he saw a special warrant for that effect, and then he would answer to it. But all the members of the house were willing and ready to purge themselves, had it not been for the confusion occasioned by Dean of Guild Stuart.

At Edinburgh, 18th April, the Estates of the kingdom having heard and considered a representation made by the commissioners of the royal burghs for regulating their Magistracy and councils, it was their opinion, that the whole burghs should have a new election, by the poll of the burgesses bearing burden in all the burghs, excluding honorary burgesses, towns-servants, pensioners, and beed-men.—As also, having considered the representation made by the several burghs, why they ought to continue their magistracy and council as being freely elected, conform to the constitution,—the estates do find, that generally the whole royal burghs have suffered encroachments on their liberties and privileges, by letters and recommendations from the King, his council, and others having power and influence, whereby these several years by-past many of the burgesses, otherwise qualified to elect and be elected, have been debarred. Therefore the estates do hereby give order and warrand for a new election of ordinary Magistrates and Town-Council of Perth, to continue until the usual time of Michaelmas, to be chosen by the poll at Perth the 1st of May next, with continuation of days; and the Estates do nominate and appoint Thomas Hay of Balhousie, Sir Colin Campbell of Aberuchil, Patrick Smyth of Methven, Walter Stuart of Kincarrochie, Adam Drummond of Meginch, Mr Robert Ross of Invernethy, or any two

Digitized by Google

of them to be present, and see the foresaid election made. And ordains the Town-clerk to convene the habile burgesses, and proceed in the foresaid election in the same manner as was formerly ordained and appointed by the estates in the election of the Magistrates and Town-council of Edinburgh and Dundee. Extracted out of the records of the Estates, by James Dalrymple, C. L. S.

May 1. In obedience to the order, the burgesses, convened in the East Kirk, in presence of Thomas Hay of Balhousie, and Andrew Drummond of Meginsh, by plurality of votes, made choice of Robert Smyth to be Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner, until the usual time about Michaelmas next; Alexander Blair of Corbs, Dean of Guild; James Cree, George Oliphant, William Flemyng, and Robert Young, Bailies; John Cunningham taylor, Treasurer; Alexander White, Patrick Robertson, Alexander Hay, Mr George Robertson, Robert Robertson, Mr James Murray, Alexander Robertson, Charles Stewart, and James Austin, merchant-counsellors. Robert Garden, for the hammermen; John Fechney, for the bakers; Walter Faichney, for the glovers, trades-counsellors, deacons; John Henry, of the hammermen; James Morris, of the bakers; David Faichney, of the glovers; Andrew Watt, of the wrights; Adam Chrystie, of the taylors; Henry Balneavis, of the fleshers, and William Moncreiff, of the shoemakers; who all accepted and took the oath *de fideli*. Blair of Corbs refused to accept.

29th September, 1690.

Bailies—James Cree, David Monteith, Alexander Hay, Walter Faichney glover.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---William Flemyng.

Treasurer---Matthew Cheap.

5th October, 1691.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---George Oliphant.

Bailies---James Cree, David Murray, Alexander Hay, Charles Melvil taylor.

Dean of Guild---William Flemyng.

Treasurer---James Austin.

5th October, 1692.

Provost, Sher and Cor.---James Cree.

Bailies—William Flemyng, David Monteith, Alexander Robertson, John Brown baker.

Dean of Guild—David Murray.

Treasurer—David Walker baker.

A proclamation was made at the cross concerning beggars. The Town-council remits the same to the Magistrates, and empowers them to go through the town and take up a real and exact list of the whole beggars that properly belong to the town, that a method in terms of the act may be resolved on, by which they may be maintained in their houses, and not suffered to beg through the streets; and such vagabonds and extraneous beggars as do not belong to the town, to be extruded the same by the town's officers and common executioner.

3d October, 1693.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---James Cree.

Bailies—William Flemyng, David Monteith, Alexander Robertson, Robert Gairn goldsmith.

Dean of Guild—David Murray dyer.

Treasurer---George Robertson apothecary.

The Council having heard the report of a committee appointed for advising with workmen concerning the

Digitized by Google

the building of a new council-house, clerk's chamber, and pack-house, upon the north shore, and understanding that the estimate of expences is about 7000 merks, the Council authorises the Magistrates and members of the committee to agree with wrights, masons, and others, who will engage to do the same sufficiently for a sum not exceeding 7000 merks; and this order of the 18th June, 1694, shall be a sufficient warrant to the Magistrates and committee.

21st September. The Council, by plurality of votes, agree to the terms of the contract betwixt the Magistrates, committee, and William Mylne, wright at Dupplin, for building the council-house, clerk's chamber, and pack-house.

Provost Oliphant, for himself and adherents, entered a protestation against that work, and Matthew Robertson, deacon of the wrights, protested against William Mylne's being employed before he is entered freeman. This work was retarded until the Magistrates obtained a decreet from the Lords of the Privy Council. After this the Magistrates ordered 2500 merks to be given as the first moiety of 7000 merks, to William Mylne, who had contracted to build the council-house, &c.

3d October, 1694.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—David Murray.

Bailies—James Austin, Alexander Hay, George Robertson, Walter Faichney.

Dean of Guild—David Monteith *.

Treasurer—David Faichney glover.

* The Dean of Guild died February 1695.

Digitized by Google

3d October, 1695.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—David Murray.

Bailies—William Flemyng, Alexander Robertson, Charles Stewart, William Chapman taylor.

Dean of Guild—George Robertson apothecary.

Treasurer—John Bryce merchant.

5th October, 1696.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Cree.

Bailies—William Flemyng, Alexander Robertson, Charles Stewart, John Brown.

Dean of Guild—George Robertson.

Treasurer—Adam Chrystie.

4th October, 1697.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Cree.

Bailies—Patrick Davidson, John Bryce, John Ramsay, William Cargill smith.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Alexander Robertson.

5th October, 1698.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Davidson.

Bailies—Charles Stewart, John Ramsay, Robert Robertson, Walter Faichney glover.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Robertson.

Treasurer—William Cargill.

3d October, 1699.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Davidson.

Bailies—Alexander Robertson, John Bryce, Andrew Gairdner, Charles Melvil.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Thomas Scott merchant.

4th October, 1700.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—George Oliphant.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies—Alexander Robertson, John Bryce, Andrew Gairdner, John Brown baker.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—George Runciman baker.

4th October, 1701.

Provost, Sher. and Cor—George Oliphant *.

Bailies—Robert Robertson, John Ramsay, George Robertson apothecary, Patrick M'Ewan hammerman.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Robertson.

Treasurer—John Brown merchant-taylor.

4th October, 1702.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Davidson.

Bailies—Alexander Robertson, John Ramsay, George Robertson, Walter Faichney glover.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—William Faichney.

4th October, 1703.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Davidson.

Bailies—Alexander Robertson, William Austin, Thomas Scott, Charles Melvil taylor.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Robert Gardner.

1704.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Alexander Robertson.

Bailies—Joseph Austin, James Brown, Thomas Scott, John Morris taylor.

Dean of Guild—William Austin.

Treasurer—Patrick Reoch shoemaker.

1705.

Provost—Alexander Robertson.

* He died in Holland while Provost.

Digitized by Google

Bailies—Joseph Austin, James Brown, Robert Gardner, William Cargill hammerman.

Dean of Guild—William Austin.

Treasurer—James Chapman.

1706.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Cree.

Bailies—William Austin, Robert Robertson, Thomas Scott, Walter Faichney.

Dean of Guild—Robert Gardner.

Treasurer—John Thomson clock-maker.

1707.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Cree.

Bailies—Robert Gardner, Robert Robertson, Thomas Scott, Charles Melvil.

Dean of Guild—William Austin.

Treasurer—Robert Robertson.

1708.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Brown.

Bailies—William Austin, James Chapman, Robert Robertson junior, John Morris baker.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—George Runciman.

1709.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Brown.

Bailies—William Austin, James Chapman, Robert Robertson junior, John Thomson.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Francis Colvil.

1710.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—William Austin.

Bailies—Robert Robertson senior, Thomas Scott, William Ferguson, Walter Faichney glover.

Dean of Guild—James Chapman.

Treasurer

Digitized by Google

Treasurer---Thomas Barland glover.

1711.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—William Austin.

Bailies---Robert Robertson senior, Thomas Scott, William Fergusson, Patrick Reoch shoemaker.

Dean of Guild---James Chapman.

Treasurer---Thomas Caw.

1712.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Robert Robertson junior.

Bailies---James Chapman, Colin Brown, Samuel Petrie, John Morris baker.

Dean of Guild---William Fergusson.

Treasurer---Francis Morison.

1713 *.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Robert Robertson.

Bailies---James Chapman, Colin Brown, Samuel Petrie, John Thomson clocksmith.

Dean of Guild---William Fergusson.

Treasurer---James M'Michael.

1714.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---William Austin.

Bailies---William Fergusson, Thomas Scott, Francis Colvill, Walter Faichney glover.

Dean of Guild---James Chapman.

Treasurer---John Strachan.

16th September, 1715.

The Earl of Mar, with the rebel army, took the town, and at Michaelmas they appointed,

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Patrick Hay.

Bailies---Nathan Fyffe, James Smith surgeon, John Young, James Swells barber.

* This year the Town's Muir was planted with firs, birches, &c.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---Mark Wood.

Treasurer---John Gourlay.

10th April, 1716.

By warrant from the King,

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---William Austin.

Bailies---William Ferguson, Thomas Scott, Francis Colvil, Patrick Reoch shoemaker.

Dean of Guild—James Chapman.

Treasurer—Patrick Crie.

1st October, 1716.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Robert Robertson junior,

Bailies—Colin Brown, Samuel Petrie, Thomas Caw, Andrew Grant baker,

Dean of Guild—William Ferguson.

Treasurer—George Runciman baker.

1717.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Robert Robertson junior,

Bailies---Colin Brown, Samuel Petrie, James M'Michael, John Thomson clocksmith.

Dean of Guild---William Ferguson.

Treasurer—Robert Melvil.

1718.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---William Austin.

Bailies—Thomas Scott, Francis Colvil, James M'Michael, Thomas Barland glover.

Dean of Guild---Colin Brown.

Treasurer---Henry Brown glover.

1719.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—William Austin.

Bailies---Francis Colvil, John Moncrieff, James M'Michael, Patrick Reoch shoemaker.

Dean of Guild---Colin Brown.

Treasurer---James Rattray.

1720,

Digitized by Google

1720.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Robert Robertson.

Bailies---Colin Brown, James M'Michael, Samuel Petrie, David Wilson baker.

Dean of Guild—Francis Colvil.

Treasurer—John Reoch shoemaker.

1721.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Robert Robertson.

Bailies—Colin Brown, Samuel Petrie, James M'Michael, John Thomson.

Dean of Guild---Francis Colvil.

Treasurer---James Davidson.

1722.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—William Austin.

Bailies---William Ferguson, John Moncrieff, Patrick Crie, Thomas Barland glover.

Dean of Guild—Samuel Petrie.

Treasurer---Ninian Gray coppersmith.

1723.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---William Austin *.

Bailies---William Ferguson, John Moncrieff, Patrick Crie, Patrick Reoch shoemaker.

Dean of Guild—Samuel Petrie.

Treasurer---James Austin merchant.

1724.

* Provost Austin died 4th August, greatly respected and lamented; a good man, the friend of the poor, an encourager of industry, a promoter of trade and the linen manufactures. His father, Thomas Austin, came from England with Cromwell's army, and settled at Perth. After the Restoration, he was the father of trade and navigation at this place. His numerous descendants from his three sons and daughters have made a respectable figure, some in promoting trade and manufactures, others in the army and navy.

Digitized by Google

1724.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—William Ferguson.

Bailies—James Davidſon, Samuel Petrie, James M'Michael, Andrew Grant baker

Dean of Guild—John Moncrieff.

Treasurer—David Ireland.

1725.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—William Ferguson.

Bailies—Samuel Petrie, James M'Michael, James Davidson, James Scott hammerman.

Dean of Guild—John Moncrieff.

Treasurer—John Ross.

1726.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Robert Robertson.

Bailies—Colin Brown, Patrick Crie, Robert Ross, John Fechney glover.

Dean of Guild—James M'Michael.

Treasurer—William Bennet glover.

1727.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Robert Robertson.

Bailies—Colin Brown, Patrick Crie, Robert Ross, David Stoddart barber.

Dean of Guild—James M'Michael.

Treasurer—David Robertson.

1728.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Colin Brown.

Bailies—James M'Michael, Robert Melvil, David Robertson, David Wilson baker.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Crie.

Treasurer—Patrick Murray taylor.

1729.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Colin Brown.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies---James M'Michael, David Robertson, James Crie, John Thomson clock-smith.

Dean of Guild---Patrick Crie.

Treasurer---Robert Wilson.

1730.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Robert Robertson.

Bailies---Patrick Crie, Robert Ross, James Crie, John Fechney glover.

Dean of Guild---James M'Michael.

Treasurer—Laurence Reid smith.

1731.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Robert Robertson.

Bailies---Patrick Crie, Robert Ross, Robert Robertson, Charles Cairny.

Dean of Guild—James Crie.

Treasurer—Thomas Craigdallie.

1732.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Patrick Crie.

Bailies---David Robertson, Robert Robertson, Thomas Peat, William Sim baker.

Dean of Guild—James Crie.

Treasurer—John M'Ghie baker.

1st October, 1733.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Crie.

Bailies—James Crie, John Faichney, Thomas Peat, William Cargill hammerman.

Dean of Guild—David Robertson.

Treasurer—John M'Leish dyer.

1734.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Robert Robertson.

Bailies—James Crie, John Faichney, John M'Leish, William Barland glover.

Dean of Guild—David Robertson.

Treasurer

Digitized by Google

Treasurer---Charles Wilson.

1735.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.---Patrick Crie.

Bailies---David Robertson, Robert Ross, David Sandeman, Andrew Grant.

Dean of Guild---James Crie.

Treasurer---Thomas Young barber.

1736.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Patrick Crie.

Bailies---David Robertson, Robert Ross, David Sandeman, Andrew Grant.

Dean of Guild---James Crie.

Treasurer---Thomas Young barber.

1737.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Robert Robertson.

Bailies---Robert Robertson, Thomas Peat, John M'Leish, Ninian Gray coppersmith.

Dean of Guild---David Sandeman.

Treasurer---William Stewart.

1738.

Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner---Robert Robertson.

Bailies---Robert Robertson, Thomas Peat, John M'Leish, Thomas Barland glover.

Dean of Guild---David Sandeman.

Treasurer---Patrick Halley coppersmith.

In October 1732, the synod of Perth and Stirling met at Perth. Mr Ebenezer Erskine, minister at Portmoak, preached before them on Psal. cxviii. 22. which was published. The application of this sermon gave great offence to a certain class of ministers in the Synod, whom he compared with the Jewish builders in the days of Jesus Christ, for which he was libelled by the Synod, and prosecuted before the General Assembly

Digitized by Google

Assembly 1733. They rebuked him at their bar; the rebuke importing, that he had departed from the word of God, and approved standards of the church. To this sentence he would not submit, but protested, That he should be at liberty still to preach the same truths of God, and to testify against the same or like defections of the church upon all proper occasions. Mess. William Wilson at Perth, Alexander Moncrieff at Abernethy, and James Fisher at Kinclaven, ministers, adhered to this protest, and then they all withdrew. The Assembly passed an act, ordering the protesters to appear before the Commission in August, and to shew their sorrow for their conduct; and if they refused to retract their protest, the Commission was appointed to suspend them. The protesters appeared in August, and adhered to their protest. They were suspended. In November, they appeared before the Commission, who, finding they disregarded the sentence of suspension, declared them no longer ministers of this church, and their churches to be vacant from the date of the sentence. When this was intimated to them, they read a paper, wherein they made a *Secession* from the church; and protested, That, notwithstanding this sentence, their pastoral relations to their several parishes should still be firm and valid. The Assembly 1734 seemed to disapprove of the measures taken in some former Assemblies and Commissions, for they repealed the act 1732, passed an act in favour of ministerial freedom, and sent Commissioners to address the King and Parliament for a repeal of the patronage-act. They turned a young gentleman out of his church, that had been ordained by the preceding Commission, contrary to the

Digitized by Google

the inclinations of the body of the Christian people; and empowered the Synod of Perth and Stirling, under certain limitations, to restore the Seceders to their ministry. Some time thereafter, that Synod accordingly took off the sentence pronounced by the Commission in 1733 against the Seceders; but they refused to come into the church, which they said had unjustly thrown them out, associated themselves into a Presbytery, and published their Act, Declaration, and Testimony, for the doctrine, worship, &c. of the Church of Scotland; in which they review the conduct of the church for a long series of years past, condemn her decisions, and represent her as corrupted. They were strengthened by the accession of Mess. Ralph Erskine at Dunfermline, Thomas Mair at Orwel, Thomas Nairn at Abbotshall, and James Thomson at Burntisland.

The Assembly met in May 1739. In opposition to the moderate part of the Assembly, the cause of the Seceders was tabled; and, after long debates, a narrow majority carried the question, of sisting them at their bar, and proceeding upon the libel; on which they were called, and the whole of them appeared. After an exhortation from the Moderator, who told them, that though they were come there to answer a libel, the Assembly was now ready, upon their submission, to receive them with open arms. But Mr Mair, Moderator of the Associate Presbytery, read a paper, entitled, "Act of the Associate Presbytery, finding and declaring, That the present judicatories of this National Church are not lawful nor right-constitute courts of Christ; and declining all authority, power, and jurisdiction, that the said judicatories may claim

Digitized by Google

claim to themselves over the said Presbytery, or any of the members thereof, or over any that are under their inspection; and particularly declining the authority of a General Assembly now met at Edinburgh, the 10th day of May 1739." After long reasoning, the Assembly divided on this question, *Proceed to a final sentence, or Not?* and it carried *Not*, by a very few voices. The house agreed to an overture which passed into an act, by which they find the libel proved against them, and *find and declare*, That the said defenders, for the offences so found relevant and proved, do justly merit the *highest censures* of the Church, and particularly that of *deposition;* but *forbear* the same yet another year, in order to give them a farther time to return to their duty, and to render them still more inexcusable if they should persist in their unwarrantable separation. The Assembly 1740, after long debate upon the Seceders cause, agreed to put the question, *Depose, or Not?* It carried by a great majority, *Depose:* Therefore the Assembly deposed the above eight ministers, and declared their kirks vacant. The Assembly thought that this sentence would weaken the Secession; but time has proved the contrary: they have not only spread their wings over Britain and Ireland, but have penetrated into North America. They afterwards divided among themselves on a question concerning a religious clause in some burgess-oaths, which many thought bound them up to the religion established by law; and they are known by the name of *Burghers* and *Antiburghers*. Each of them have large and commodious kirks in Perth.

1739.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Crie.

Bailies

Bailies—John Faichney, John Robertson of Tullibelton, William Stewart, Charles Alison flesher.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Thomas Robertson.

This year there was a controverted election, which was decided by the House of Lords in favours of,

1740.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Crie.

Bailies—John Robertson, William Stuart, Thomas Beveridge, James Brown baker.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—John Coupar baker.

1741.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Crie.

Bailies—Robert Robertson, Thomas Peat, Thomas Beveridge, James Chaip saddler.

Dean of Guild—John Robertson.

Treasurer—Robert Marshal.

1742.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Crie.

Bailies—Robert Robertson, Thomas Peat, Robert Marshal, John Miller glover.

Dean of Guild—John Robertson.

Treasurer—Robert Gardner.

1743.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Crie.

Bailies—Robert Robertson, William Stuart, Robert Marshal, Charles Cairny.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—William Gray.

1744.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—James Crie.

Bailies

Digitized by Google

Bailies—John Robertson, William Stuart, William Gray, James Mathew baker.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Patrick Coupar flesher.

1745.

There was no election at Michaelmas because of the rebellion.

September 3d. A detachment of the Camerons from the Highland army entered Perth towards night. The next day the young Pretender, with several gentlemen of distinction on horseback arrived, who repaired to the Cross, and published their Manifesto, declaration, and warrand from the Pretender to his son Prince Charles, as regent in his absence. The main body rendezvoused in the afternoon, having set up a standard with the motto, *Tandem triumphans*. The magistrates and town-clerk, with some other gentlemen, retired to Edinburgh. A detachment was sent to Dundee, where they seized the ship of William Graham of Perth, newly arrived from London, and brought her to Perth, suspecting gun-powder on board. The main body, with the young Pretender, remained at Perth until the 11th, when they marched westward, and carried with them prisoners, Patrick Crie, late Provost, David Sandeman younger, and some others, whom they dismissed at Tullibardin. They marched to Edinburgh, and from thence to Preston, and defeated Sir John Cope with the King's troops on the 21st, where the gallant Colonel Gardiner was slain, with some other brave officers. The prisoner-officers were, upon their parole, sent to several towns. The officers in Loudon's regiment were sent to Perth. 30th October, the King's birth-day, the

Digitized by Google

Highlanders having all left the town and gone south with the army, a small party being left to keep guard under Mr Oliphant of Gask, who was made deputy-governor by the young Chevalier, a number of maltmen, tradesmen, &c. about mid-day possessed themselves of the church and steeple, and rang the bells. Mr Oliphant sent to desire those who rung the bells to desist, but they refused to comply, and continued ringing at intervals until midnight, two hours after the ordinary time. Mr Oliphant, with his small guard and three or four gentlemen, posted themselves in the council-house, in order to secure about 1400 small arms, ammunition, &c. belonging to the Highland army, that were lodged there and in the tolbooth adjoining. At night, seven north-country gentlemen, with their servants in the same interest, came to town, and immediately joined their friends in the council-house: the mob made bone-fires on the street, and ordered the windows to be illuminated, and broke the few that were not illuminated. About nine o'clock at night, a party from the council-house marched up the street to disperse them, fired upon and wounded three of them; upon which they rushed in upon the party, disarmed and wounded some of them. After this, they placed guards at all the gates of the town, took possession of the main-guard, and rung the fire-bell, by which they drew together about 200 people. Before they rang the bell a second time, they sent a message in writing, signed by initials, to Mr Oliphant, requiring him to withdraw instantly, and yield up the arms, ammunition, &c. to them. This was refused, and thereupon hostilities began about two o'clock in the morning, and continued about three hours. They fired

Digitized by Google

fired at the council-house from close-heads, from behind stairs, and from windows, so that they in the council-house could not look out but with the utmost hazard. About five o'clock they dismissed. An Irish captain in the French service was killed in the council-house, and three or four wounded. Of the mob (who had none to conduct them) four were wounded. Next day about sixty of Lord Nairn's men were brought into the town, and soon after about 130 Highlanders.

After General Cope's defeat at Preston, the rebels marched without interruption into England as far as Derby; but receiving intelligence that the young Duke of Cumberland was at the head of the troops, and reinforced by veterans from Flanders, they made a precipitate retreat, and were followed at the heels by his Royal Highness, who retook Carlisle, drove them out of England, and returned to London. The disappointment and precipitate retreat from England, instead of weakening, seemed to strengthen their party. Some piquets of the Irish, in the pay of France, had landed in Scotland, and the whole of their force now in arms amounted to about 9000 men. They had the temerity to besiege the castle of Stirling, which was defended by General Blackeney, and the good fortune, on the 17th of January 1746, to beat the royal army under General Hawley at Falkirk; but from that day their affairs declined. It was now thought proper to give the troops a royal leader in the person of the Duke of Cumberland, who had a true military turn, and was greatly beloved in the army. On the sudden arrival of the Duke at Edinburgh, where he took the command of the army, and his advancing

Digitized by Google

towards Stirling on the last of January, the rebels abandoned the siege of that castle, blew up their powder-magazine, and retired towards Inverness. Lord George Murray, the best general and statesman among them, and Lord John Drummond, came to Perth, where they had a magazine of powder, and some field-pieces, which they ordered to be spiked up, and the cannon-ball to be thrown into the river. The whole citizens were greatly alarmed by a report, that they designed to blow up the magazine lodged in a cellar below the tolbooth, which was full of prisoners taken from the Hazard sloop at Montrose, and from the royal army.

John Anderson merchant, by his prudence and interest with Lord George Murray, who had feelings of humanity, and a regard for the town, prevented the execution of the barbarous design, which was, perhaps falsely, attributed to Lord John Drummond. Mr Anderson bought the powder, and Lord George Murray went himself, and set the prison-doors open, gave the common men money, and advised them to keep out of the way of any of their small parties marching through Perth. The Duke followed the rebels, came into Perth with the army, rested a few days, and marched through Aberdeen to Culloden muir, where he engaged the rebel army on April 16. and put an end to the rebellion by a total defeat of their army. It is not to be doubted that the exasperated soldiery, without the orders or knowledge of his Royal Highness, stained their laurels by inhumanity, and that many innocent persons suffered the most cruel hardship with the guilty. The operations by fire and sword were not always warranted by necessity,

Digitized by Google

cessity, and were complained of even by the best friends of the government. The late Mr James Smyth, a celebrated physician and surgeon of Perth, whose character and memory will be long remembered with pleasure in this town and country, was active in doing many good offices to the inhabitants, saving them from prison and fines, by his influence and interest with the governors and commanding officers of the rebels.

May 1746.

By order from the Court, the late Magistrates and Council were empowered to elect in the ordinary way.

Provost, Sher. and Cor.—Patrick Crie.

Bailies---Robert Robertson, Thomas Peat, William Gray, James Cuthbert hammerman.

Dean of Guild---John Robertson.

Treasurer—John Stuart.

Michaelmas, 1747.

Provost, &c.—Robert Robertson of Tullibelton.

Bailies---William Stuart, Robert Marshal, John Stuart, Patrick Coupar flesher.

Dean of Guild---Robert Robertson.

Treasurer---James Beveridge.

Michaelmas, 1748.

Provost, &c.---James Crie.

Bailies---Robert Robertson, Robert Marshall, William Gray, James Mathew baker.

Dean of Guild---William Stuart.

Treasurer---George Maxton baker.

Michaelmas, 1749.

Provost, &c.—James Crie.

Digitized by Google

Bailies---Robert Robertson, William Gray, James Beveridge, Walter Marshall sadler.

Dean of Guild---William Stuart.

Treasurer---Henry Fyffe.

Michaelmas, 1750.

Provost, &c.---John Robertson of Tullibelton.

Bailies---William Stuart, William Gray, John Stuart, William Barland glover.

Dean of Guild---Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—Thomas Robertson.

1751.

Provost, &c.—John Robertson.

Bailies—William Stuart, John Stuart, Henry Fyffe, David Buchan flesher.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—David Sandeman.

1752 *.

Provost, &c.—James Crie.

Bailies—Robert Robertson, William Gray, Henry Fyffe, John Coupar baker.

Dean of Guild—William Stuart.

Treasurer—Henry Johnston flesher.

Michaelmas, 1753.

Provost, &c.—James Crie.

Bailies---Robert Robertson, William Gray, David Sandeman, James Cuthbert hammerman.

Dean of Guild---William Stuart.

Treasurer---James Paton.

Michaelmas, 1754.

Provost, &c.---John Robertson of Tullibelton.

* The new shore at the foot of the South Inch, and the Muirtown-bulwark, were built this year.

Dean

Digitized by Google

Bailies---William Stuart, John Stuart, David Sandeman, Thomas Robertson glover.

Dean of Guild—Robert Robertson.

Treasurer---David Young coppersmith.

Michaelmas, 1755.

Provost, &c.—John Robertson of Tullibelton.

Bailies---William Stuart, John Stuart, James Paton, David Buchan flesher.

Dean of Guild---Robert Robertson.

Treasurer—James Marshal.

Michaelmas, 1756.

Provost, &c.—James Crie.

Bailies—Robert Robertson, James Beveridge, James Paton, James Mathew baker.

Dean of Guild—William Stuart.

Treasurer—Laurence Wright baker.

Michaelmas, 1757.

Provost, &c.—James Crie.

Bailies---Robert Robertson, James Beveridge, Henry Fyffe, Walter Marshal saddler.

Dean of Guild—William Stuart.

Treasurer—Alexander Simson.

Michaelmas, 1758.

Provost, &c.---William Stuart.

Bailies—William Gray, Henry Fyffe, James Marshal, William Paton glover.

Dean of Guild---Robert Robertson.

Treasurer---Alexander Robertson glover.

Michaelmas, 1759.

Provost, &c.---William Stuart.

Bailies---William Gray, John Stuart, James Marshal, David Buchan flesher.

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild---Robert Robertson.
Treasurer---Thomas Marshal.

Michaelmas, 1760 *.

Provost, &c.---William Gray.
Bailies---James Beveridge, Henry Fyffe, Alexander Simson, John Clerk baker.
Dean of Guild---John Stuart.
Treasurer---John Waterson taylor.

Michaelmas, 1761.

Provost, &c.---William Stuart.
Bailies—James Beveridge, Henry Fyffe, Alexander Simson, David Young coppersmith.
Dean of Guild---John Stuart.
Treasurer---John Ramsay.

Michaelmas, 1762.

Provost, &c.---John Stuart.
Bailies—David Sandeman, John Ramsay, Thomas Marshall, Thomas Blair glover.
Dean of Guild—Thomas Beveridge.
Treasurer—William M'Vey saddler.

Michaelmas, 1763.

Provost, &c.—John Stuart.
Bailies—David Sandeman, John Ramsay, Thomas Marshall, Charles Bell shoemaker.
Dean of Guild—James Beveridge.
Treasurer---George Faichney.

* St Peter was the tutelar saint of the fleshers. Before their seat in the kirk they had an altar illuminated with wax candles. A tax was laid on all slaughtered cattle for supporting St Peter's Altar: they usually called it Patie's Altarage Penny. This tax was regularly exacted until this year, when Provost Gray abolished that Popish relict.

Michaelmas,

Digitized by Google

Michaelmas, 1764.

Provost, &c.---Alexander Simson.

Bailies---Andrew Fyffe, George Faichney, William Alison, John Coupar baker.

Dean of Guild—David Sandeman.

Treasurer---John Hutton baker.

Michaelmas, 1765.

Provost, &c.—Alexander Simson.

Bailies—Henry Fyffe, William Alison, George Faichney, David Young coppersmith.

Dean of Guild—David Sandeman.

Treasurer—John Caw.

The Town-council, finding many inconveniencies arising from the Treasurer's keeping their accounts, especially those chosen from among the trades, agreed to make choice of Mr Patrick Miller, deputy-clerk, to be chamberlain of the town, with a salary, to take the burden of keeping the accounts in a regular manner, and the Treasurers to be elected annually with the Magistrates, as usual.

The Council, considering that the market-cross is a great impediment in passing along the North-street, and in entering the Kirk-gate and Skinner-gate with wheeled machines, empowered the Magistrates to remove the same, and to dispose thereof by public sale, or to erect the same at the council-house, as they shall think fit. It was ordered next council-day to be rouped, which was immediately done, and sold to a mason, the highest bidder, for five pounds Sterling, and was immediately demolished, and the stones carried away.

Michaelmas, 1766.

Provost, &c.—William Stuart.

Bailies

Bailies—John Ramsay, Thomas Marshall, John Caw, Joseph Forrester glover.

Dean of Guild—Henry Fyffe.

Treasurer—William Bennet glover.

This year the foundation-stone of the new bridge over Tay was laid by the Right Honourable Thomas, Earl of Kinnoul. By his Lordship's recommendation, Mr Smeaton was employed to plan the bridge, sound the river, and pitch upon the most convenient and safe place for the town for raising this magnificent and useful structure. Last year an act of Parliament was obtained, commissioners empowered, and tolls granted, for building and supporting the bridge, with powers given to the commissioners to take off the tolls on foot-passengers of one farthing, when the money which they are empowered to borrow for building the bridge is paid, with the interest; and also to take off all the tolls granted by the Parliament, when a free capital of 1500 pounds Sterling is raised from the tolls, and laid out by the commissioners on interest for the necessary support and reparation of the bridge. In virtue of the act of Parliament, a subscription for a free gift was voluntarily entered into for executing this beneficial work, and the sheriff-depute of the shire of Perth for the time being, the Provost, Dean of Guild, and the first Merchant-Bailie of the burgh of Perth for the time being, together with every Commissioner of Supply or land-tax for the county of Perth for the time being, who shall advance and lend the sum of 100 pounds Sterling upon the credit of the tolls granted, or who shall advance and pay the sum of ten guineas as a free gift, towards building the bridge, and the heir-male of every such Commissioner

Digitized by Google

Commissioner of Supply being of lawful age, and a Commissioner of Supply: And also every person who shall advance and lend the sum of 200 pounds Sterling upon the credit of the tolls and duties granted for building of the said bridge, or who shall advance and pay the sum of 20 guineas, as a free gift for building the said bridge, and the heir-male of every such person, being of lawful age, shall be, and they are hereby constituted, Commissioners for designing, erecting, and building the bridge, and for executing all other the powers granted by the act.

Michaelmas, 1767.

Provost, &c.—William Stuart.

Bailies—John Ramsay, Thomas Marshall, John Caw, Charles Bell shoemaker.

Dean of Guild—Henry Fyffe.

Treasurer—Joseph Faichney.

Michaelmas, 1768.

Provost, &c. John Stuart.

Bailies—Henry Fyffe, George Faichney, Joseph Faichney, John Hutton baker.

Dean of Guild—John Ramsay.

Treasurer—John Graham shoemaker.

1769.

Provost, &c.—John Stuart.

Bailies—Henry Fyffe, George Faichney, Joseph Faichney, John Sheddan smith.

Dean of Guild—John Ramsay.

Treasurer—Thomas Sandeman.

Michaelmas, 1770.

Provost, &c.—Alexander Simson.

Bailies—William Alison, John Caw, Thomas Sandeman, Patrick Rintoul glover.

Dean

Digitized by Google

Dean of Guild—George Faichney.

Treasurer—John Marshal saddler.

Michaelmas, 1771.

Provost, &c.—Alexander Simson.

Bailies—John Caw, William Alison, Thomas Sandeman, Patrick Craigie shoemaker.

Dean of Guild—George Faichney.

Treasurer—Patrick Stuart.

On the 31st October, the bridge was finished.

Michaelmas, 1772.

Provost, &c.—William Stuart.

Bailies—Henry Fyffe, Joseph Faichney, Patrick Stuart, James Pearson baker.

Dean of Guild—William Alison.

Treasurer—James Taylor baker.

Michaelmas, 1773.

Provost, &c.—William Stuart.

Bailies—Henry Fyffe, John Caw, Patrick Stuart, Henry Maiben saddler.

Dean of Guild—William Alison.

Treasurer—John Richardson.

About the end of December a severe frost came on, followed with a great fall of snow. The frost continued intense all the month of January, with snow-showers at intervals. The river Tay was frozen over on the 10th, and the stream-tides had not force to break the ice, which was of a greater thickness than that in 1740. There was no thaw until the 11th day of February, when the stream-tide began to flow. The thaw increased until the 14th, when the tide raised the ice about four feet, which loosed it at both sides of the river; but, when the tide returned, such was the thickness and strength of the ice, that it subsided

Digitized by Google

sided unbroken. Almond and the other small rivers began to flow, bringing down huge shoals of broken ice, which began to make an impression on the river above the bridge. Tay yet remained firm and unbroken. Many people began to be apprehensive, especially if the dissolved snow from the mountains should swell the river before the ice was broken below the bridge to give it vent, for the river was one continued sheet of thick ice for above eight miles, from Luncarty down to the mouth of Earn river. The water increased with the dissolved snow, and tore into pieces the ice above the bridge, which was crowded with spectators trembling for the event. About mid-day the water, choaked up by the ice, overspread the whole North Inch, broke down a long wall of stone and lime at the head of it, lodged upon its surface immense blocks of ice above eighteen inches thick, piled one upon another, tore up and broke a fine row of trees on each side of the Dunkeld road, and rendered it utterly impassable. In a short time the town was an island; the water ran with a great current through the Castle-gavel, and north end of the Skinner-gate, and laid many houses under water, so that infirm and sick people were with great difficulty removed to places of safety. The water from the Inch increasing, took its course through the Blackfriars grounds on the north of the town, where there was a stone wall through the middle of these grounds from north to south. Nothing could resist its impetuosity, and the force of the large blocks of ice floating in it; the wall was overturned, and the water directed its course to the Mill-wynd, at the west end of the town, and, to the surprise and consternation of the inhabitants,

Digitized by Google

inhabitants, laid their habitations six feet under water. There was no getting out nor in to many houses in New-Row. The Spy and Hospital Gardens on the south were under water, and the gardeners were obliged to fly to the upper stories of their houses. Mean time the pressure of the water, and the great blocks of ice, broke down the walls on the west side of the Deadland garden and orchard immediately below the bridge. The trees broke the force of the great masses of ice, otherwise the houses in the orchard would have been in the utmost danger of being carried into the river. During this havock, the whole ice over the Inch floating like moving mountains, was in one tremendous motion pressing towards this place, where it found a vent, and as it continued to run through this new passage into the river, it soon began to subside above, and, some time after, the ice opposite to Gowrie House broke quite across the river, by which means the water found a free passage under the ice. The confusion and alarm at this time was very great betwixt two and three in the afternoon, and things continued much in the same situation until about nine o'clock at night, when the ice at the bridge began to give way with amazing cracks and noise by the inundation from Tay, which raised the water some feet above the spring of the arches of the bridge.—To such a height was the water raised, and such immense blocks of ice floating in it, that in its passage it broke down the parapets on the north shore, and ran in a violent current through the strong arches below the council-house, and lodged great blocks of ice a great way up the High-street, overturned the walls of several gardens in the Water-gate, and filled them with

Digitized by Google

with ice. The end of one of the fish-houses was carried off. Five ships were thrown upon the Quay; four were got off without damage, the other suffered considerably. About eleven o'clock that night the river began to clear and subside. The bridge did not receive the smallest damage; only a small part of the parapet beyond the river was broken by the ice. From Almond, which is more than two miles above the town, down to the foot of the South Inch, was one sheet of water. From the bridge, Muirtown and the town had the appearance of islands. Although many people were under fearful apprehensions, it is amazing that so little damage was done, and no lives lost. The town may suffer from future inundations, but it does not appear that the bridge, as it is now situated, will; for, before the water reach four feet above the spring of the arches, it will overflow the whole of the North Inch, and surround the town.—The inhabitants have now ocular demonstration, that the Water-gate street is considerably higher than the west end of the town, for there was no water in that street at the height of the inundation, when the houses at the west end were six feet under water.

3d October, 1774.

Provost, &c.—Alexander Simson.

Dean of Guild—Henry Fyffe.

Merchant Bailies—George Fechney, John Caw, John Richardson.

Trades Bailie—Robert Gray glover.

Town Treasurer—Thomas Stewart glover.

2d October, 1775.

Provost, &c. Alexander Simson.

Dean of Guild—Henry Fyffe.

Merchant

Digitized by Google

Merchant Bailies---George Fechney, Thomas Sandeman, John Richardson.

Trades Bailie—John Whittet flesher.

Town Treasurer—Alexander Fechney merchant.

30th September, 1776.

Provost, &c.—William Stewart.

Dean of Guild---George Fechney.

Merchant Bailies---Thomas Marshall, Thomas Sandeman, Alexander Fechney.

Trades Bailie—John Gardner baker.

Town Treasurer---John Bisset glazier.

29th September, 1777.

Provost, &c.—William Stewart, Esq.

Dean of Guild---George Fechney.

Merchant Bailies---Thomas Marshall, Pat. Stewart, Alexander Fechney.

Trades Bailie—James Greig watchmaker.

Town Treasurer---James Ramsay merchant.

5th October, 1778.

Provost, &c.—George Fechney, Esq.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Marshall.

Merchant Bailies---Patrick Stewart, James Ramsay, George Blaikie.

Trades Bailie—Robert Gray glover.

Town Treasurer---Robert Burns saddler.

4th October, 1779.

Provost, &c.---George Fechney.

Dean of Guild---Thomas Marshall.

Merchant Bailies---John Caw, James Ramsay, George Blaikie.

Trades Bailie---John Bisset glazier.

Town Treasurer---Alexander Alison.

2d

Digitized by Google

2d October, 1780.

Provost—William Stewart, Esq.

Dean of Guild—John Caw.

Merchant Bailies—Thomas Sandeman, Alexander Fechney, Alexander Alison.

Trades Bailie—David Imrie baker.

Town Treasurer—John Gardner baker.

1st October, 1781.

Provost—William Stewart, Esq.

Dean of Guild—John Caw.

Merchant Bailies—Thomas Sandeman, Alexander Fechney, Alexander Alison.

Trades Bailie—Robert Burns saddler.

Town Treasurer—James Balmain merchant.

30th September, 1782.

Provost—George Fechney.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Sandeman.

Merchant Bailies—Thomas Marshall, James Ramsay, James Balmain.

Trades Bailie—Thomas Robertson glover.

Town Treasurer—John Grant glover.

29th September, 1783.

Provost—George Fechney.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Sandeman.

Merchant Bailies—Thomas Marshall, James Ramsay, James Balmain.

Trades Bailie—John Bisset glazier.

Town Treasurer—Alexander Porteous merchant.

4th October, 1784.

Provost—Thomas Marshall, Esq.

Dean of Guild—James Ramsay.

Merchant Bailies—Patrick Stewart, Alexander Alison, Alexander Porteous.

Digitized by Google

Trades Bailie—John Gardner baker.
Town Treasurer—Alexander Bell shoemaker.

5th September, 1785.

Provost—Thomas Marshall, Esq.
Dean of Guild—James Ramsay.
Merchant Bailies—Patrick Stewart, Alexander Alison, Alexander Porteous.
Trades Bailie—John Sheddan hammerman.
Town Treasurer—Thomas Black merchant.

2d October, 1786.

Provost—William Alison, Esq.
Dean of Guild—Alexander Alison.
Merchant Bailies—James Ramsay, Thomas Black, William Wood.
Trades Bailie—Patrick Stewart glover.
Town Treasurer—William Gray hammerman.

1st October, 1787.

Provost—William Alison, Esq.
Dean of Guild—Alexander Alison.
Merchant Bailies—James Ramsay, Thomas Black, William Wood.
Trades Bailie—John Whittet flesher.
Town Treasurer—David Macvicar merchant.

15th September, 1788.

Provost—John Caw, Esq.
Dean of Guild—James Ramsay.
Merchant Bailies—Alexander Alison, Alexander Porteous, Thomas Barland.
Trades Bailie—Robert Matthew baker.
Town Treasurer—James Roy.

5th October, 1789.

Provost—John Caw, Esq.
Dean of Guild—Alexander Porteous.

Merchant

Digitized by Google

Merchant Bailies—Alexander Alison, Thomas Barland, Patrick Duncan.

Trades Bailie—Robert Menzies hammerman.

Town Treasurer—John Young merchant.

4th October, 1790.

Provost—Alexander Fechney, Esq.

Dean of Guild—Patrick Duncan.

Merchant Bailies—James Ramsay, James Proudfoot, John Campbell.

Trades Bailie—Patrick Grant glover.

Town Treasurer—John Pirie junior, glover.

3d October, 1791.

Provost—Alexander Fechney, Esq.

Dean of Guild—James Proudfoot.

Merchant Bailies—James Ramsay, John Campbell, Donald M'Donald.

Trades Bailie—John Whittet flesher.

Town Treasurer—Thomas Hay Marshall merchant.

1st October, 1792.

Provost—John Caw, Esq.

Dean of Guild—James Proudfoot.

Merchant Bailies—Alexander Porteous, Thomas Black, Thomas Hay Marshall.

Trades Bailie—Robert Matthew baker.

Town Treasurer—John Halket barber.

30th September, 1793.

Provost—John Caw, Esq.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Black.

Merchant Bailies—Alexander Porteous, Thomas Hay Marshall, Peter Duff.

Trades Bailie—William Gray hammerman.

Town Treasurer—Laurence Robertson merchant.

Digitized by Google

29th September, 1794.

Provost—James Ramsay, Esq.

Dean of Guild—Thomas Black.

Merchant Bailies—James Proudfoot, Peter Duff, Laurence Robertson.

Trades Bailie—John Cowans glover.

Town Treasurer—Daniel M'Farlane saddler.

5th October, 1795.

Provost—James Ramsay, Esq.

Dean of Guild—James Proudfoot.

Merchant Bailies—Alexander Porteous, Laurence Robertson, John Caw junior.

Trades Bailie—John M'Ewen mason.

Town Treasurer—David Woodrow Merchant.

3d October, 1796.

Provost—Alexander Fechney, Esq.

Dean of Guild—James Proudfoot.

Merchant Bailies—Alexander Porteous, Peter Duff, John Caw junior.

Trades Bailie—David Proudfoot baker.

Town Treasurer—Charles Bruce baker.

4th September, 1797.

Provost—Alexander Fechney, Esq.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Porteous.

Merchant Bailies—Thomas Black, Peter Duff, David Woodrow.

Trades Bailie—James Greig watchmaker.

Town Treasurer—Robert Ross merchant.

1st October, 1798.

Provost—Thomas Black, Esq.

Dean of Guild—Alexander Porteous.

Merchant Bailies—James Proudfoot, Laurence Robertson, Robert Ross.

Trades

Digitized by Google

Trades Bailie---Thomas Robertson glover.
Town Treasurer---John Taylor glover.

30th September, 1799.

Provost---Thomas Black, Esq.
Dean of Guild---James Proudfoot.
Merchant Bailies---Peter Duff, Laurence Robertson, Robert Ross.
Trades Bailie---John M'Ewen mason.
Town Treasurer---David Morison merchant.

29th September, 1800.

Provost---Thomas Hay Marshall, Esq.
Dean of Guild---James Proudfoot.
Merchant Bailies---Peter Duff, John Caw, David Morison.
Trades Bailie---John Scott junior baker.
Town Treasurer---George Gray wright.

5th October, 1801.

Provost---Thomas Hay Marshall, Esq.
Dean of Guild---Peter Duff.
Merchant Bailies---John Caw, Robert Ross, David Morison.
Trades Bailie---James Greig watchmaker.
Town Treasurer---William Blair merchant.

4th October, 1802.

Provost---John Caw, Esq.
Dean of Guild---Peter Duff.
Merchant Bailies---Laurence Robertson, Robert Ross, William Blair.
Trades Bailie---Robert Gray glover.
Town Treasurer---John Clark coppersmith.

3d October, 1803.

Provost---John Caw, Esq.
Dean of Guild---Laurence Robertson.

Digitized by Google

Merchant Bailies---Peter Duff, David Morison, William Blair.

Trades Bailie---John M'Ewen mason.

Town Treasurer---David Beatson merchant.

1st October, 1804.

Provost---Thomas Hay Marshall, Esq.

Dean of Guild---Laurence Robertson.

Merchant Bailies---Peter Duff, David Morison, David Beatson.

Trades Bailie---Robert Morton baker.

Town Treasurer---Charles Angus baker.

1st October, 1805.

Provost—Thomas Hay Marshall, Esq.

Dean of Guild—David Morison.

Merchant Bailies—Laurence Robertson, Robert Ross, David Beatson.

Trades Bailie—Alexander M'Farlane watchmaker.

Town Treasurer—Duncan Spottiswood merchant.

MEMO.

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH.

SECT. III.

The TRADITIONAL ACCOUNT *in the Town of Perth, concerning the* DEATH *of* JOHN, *Earl of Gowrie, and his Brother, Mr* ALEXANDER RUTHVEN, *in the Year* 1600.

BY THE LATE REV. ALEXANDER DUFF,
OF TIBBERMUIR.

IN the year 1584, during the minority of King James the Sixth, William, the first Earl of Gowrie, was executed at Stirling. After the King had come to the full years of majority, he found the Gowrie family under John, the third Earl, who was a younger son of the said William, possessed of wealth and power beyond the other nobility of the kingdom; and growing apprehensive that this Earl Gowrie might at some time avail himself of this circumstance to revenge the death of his father, it is firmly believed, by those who have had best access to be well informed about this matter, that his Majesty went from Falk-

Digitized by Google

land to Perth, with design to destroy Earl Gowrie and his family.

On the 5th August, 1600, King James set off from Falkland for Perth. On the road, he gave the following account of his journey to some of them who accompanied him. That Mr Alexander Ruthven, Earl Gowrie's brother, had met with him privately that morning, when he was going out to the chace, and told him that the Earl and he had the day before apprehended a foreign monk in the neighbourhood of Perth, with a great quantity of gold coin in an earthen pot, and that they had secured him, on suspicion of his being sent over to employ this money to sow discord, and support the interest of Popery; and he had come to inform his Majesty, that he might go himself and examine the matter. That he (the King) having resolved to delay the affair till they had finished a chace, Mr Alexander Ruthven, who acted with great secrecy, was returned to Perth; and his Majesty inquired at those who were with him, if Mr Ruthven was altogether solid in his judgement? to which it was answered, that he always behaved himself as a man of prudence and worth.

About dinner-time, word was brought to the Earl, who was attending a marriage between a young man of the name of Lamb, and a young woman called Bell, the daughter of a respectable citizen of Perth, that the King and a company with him had come to his house; on which Earl Gowrie's countenance changed, and he appeared to be a good deal perplexed; and being asked by the bride's father, in whose house he was, what ailed him, he said he was distressed for a dinner to the King and his retinue, who had

Digitized by Google

had come upon him unexpectedly. Mr Bell urged him to accept of the dinner that was prepared for the wedding, and it is believed he did accept of it. The Earl of Gowrie went to meet the King, and conducted him into his house, where his Majesty dined in a room by himself; and about the end of dinner, the King, looking stedfastly to Lord Gowrie, said he would make free to tell him he had imported some foolish customs from France, to the neglect of some good social customs that pertained to his own country. Earl Gowrie having asked what he meant, "Why don't you shake hands with your guests," said the King, "and bid them welcome?" The Earl on this took the King by the hand, and bade him welcome. "Go now," said his Majesty, "and do the same with the rest of the company." And when Lord Gowrie had gone for this purpose to the King's attendants, who were dining in a different apartment, the King said, That Mr Alexander Ruthven suggested to him that now was the proper time to go and examine the monk. They passed through the room where the Court-people were dining, his Majesty saying, "Sit ye merry, gentlemen, and much good may it do you." They then went through three other apartments, the doors of which Mr Ruthven locked behind them, and came at last to the fatal closet, where the tragedy that day was performed. The stories of their finding a man in armour, instead of a monk; of Mr Ruthven making the King to swear, that in his absence he would not move nor call out for assistance; of his then going to advise with the Earl his brother, and telling the King on his return, that there was no help, he must die; have been considered

Digitized by Google

sidered at Perth as having no other support but the King's assertion; for the declaration of Andrew Henderson, who, after three other persons, concerning whom the King had said he was certain that one of them was the man in armour, had made it appear that neither of them was that man, affirmed that he was the man in armour shut up with his Majesty in the closet, was looked on as false, and Henderson was held as infamous. It is even affirmed, that after swearing he was the man found in the closet, he never had the courage to look a man in the face, but always had the appearance of a crest-fallen dejected creature, whose countenance seemed to confess the justice of that general and great contempt which was cast upon him.

When the King's retinue had dined, one of his servants told them that his Majesty had set off a little before for Falkland; on which they ran to get their horses, and having mounted, when they were near the Port, they heard the King's voice from a window in Earl Gowrie's house, which he had got half opened, crying "Treason, treason." They immediately returned, and tried to get into the closet from which the voice had come, but the doors were barricaded, and it took some time to break them open with hammers from an adjoining smith's shop, and such other instruments as they could first procure. Earl Gowrie, being alarmed at the uproar, ran up by a private stair to a smaller entrance, accompanied with some servants, and armed with a sword in each hand. He found the King in the closet, and along with him his surgeon, called Herris, his page Ramsay, and his groom Murray, which three men had got into the close

Digitized by Google

closet without the knowledge of the other company who had come with the King. Earl Gowrie stuck his swords in the floor, and desired to know the cause of such disturbance. He was answered by Ramsay, that there was a design to kill the King, and immediately he and the other two fell on the Earl, and dispatched him, as they had done his brother Mr Alexander Ruthven a little before. At this time those persons who were forcing their way by the principal entry, got to the closet, and the King telling them what danger he had been in, they congratulated him on his deliverance from it.

The news being quickly spread through the town, the inhabitants, and even the Magistrates, exasperated beyond measure by the death of their beloved Provost, ran in crowds to Earl Gowrie's house, and threatened to kill the King and all his attendants. Various means were employed to soothe their passions. His Majesty endeavoured to appease their anger, by narrating the great danger he had so narrowly escaped. He tried also to turn it against the deceased Earl and his brother; but after all they could do to allay the fury of the enraged multitude, they found it most adviseable to keep themselves within doors till day-light was gone, and then in a dark night they slipped away privately, and returned to Falkland. When the King mentioned the circumstance of the man in armour who had been with him in the closet, being asked if he knew him, he answered that he was positive about his being one of the three persons whom he named. Two of them being near at hand, gave full proof that neither of them was the man in armour; and his Majesty having affirmed that he was

clear

clear it was the third person mentioned by him, who was a servant of Lord Gowrie's, called Younger. This man also being able to prove that he could not be with the King in the closet, having been at Dundee when his master was killed at Perth, he wrote to a friend in Falkland that he would not lie under the imputation, and being on his way to disprove it, he was found of a morning in a corn field with his throat cut.

His Majesty published an appointment of a day of thanksgiving, to be observed through the nation, on account of his wonderful deliverance from this dangerous conspiracy. Several clergymen, particularly the ministers of Edinburgh, refused to observe it; and one of them, very eminent for integrity and spirit, Mr Robert Bruce, did actually submit to perpetual banishment, rather than dissemble, by saying he was convinced that Earl Gowrie had conspired against the life of his sovereign. Murray the groom being sent to expostulate with Mr Bruce for not obeying the King's edict, he replied, "It would be more for the King's honour to have less to do with such persons as you." Two younger brothers of Earl Gowrie, Mess. William and Patrick Ruthvens, were at Dirleton when he and Mr Alexander were killed at Perth. When the King got to Falkland, he dispatched Murray his groom to kill these two young gentlemen, that they might not survive the misfortune of their family, and, perhaps, be the avengers of it. But one of the King's servants, named Kennedy, who had formerly been servant to Earl Gowrie, and had a regard for that family, getting information of this cruel purpose, stole a horse from the King's stable, arrived before the groom,

Digitized by Google

groom, gave intelligence to the unfortunate youths of what had been done to their brothers, and was designed against themselves. They fled, got abroad, and were kindly received and entertained by the famous reformer Theodore Beza, who had been well acquainted with Earl Gowrie, had the highest respect for his character and memory, and never would give credit to the story of his having conspired against the King. Ramsay, Murray, and Herris, received titles and riches in reward of their services on this important occasion.

The above, so far as I have been able to procure information, is the most distinct and complete account that has been preserved in the town of Perth concerning that remarkable event, which is generally (though with great injustice, I most sincerely believe) called Gowrie's Conspiracy. When I shewed the old castle of Ruthven, in this parish, now called Huntingtower, once the dwelling-place of the family of Gowrie, to that intelligent and ingenuous traveller, Thomas Pennant, Esquire, he expressed a desire to have the best account of this matter, which tradition had preserved in the place where it happened. After diligent search, the above narration is the result of my inquiries. In the course of a dozen of years, during which it has been in my custody, the sentiments of mankind on this subject are much changed, and an opinion corresponding with the strain of this tradition, which makes the conspiracy on the King's side, doth greatly gain ground; and this, it appears, was the opinion at Perth, from the day when that melancholy affair was transacted there. The circumstance of three armed men being privately admitted into the closet before the King

King and Mr Alexander Ruthven came there, removes the principal difficulty which stood in the way of supposing the Sovereign to be the conspirator. His Majesty was in no danger by going into the closet with Mr Ruthven, who was much stronger than him, when three armed men were previously lodged there, to protect him, and assassinate the other so soon as he entered. We cannot well suppose that these armed men got into that closet without the connivance at least of some of Earl Gowrie's servants, who had been gained over to give them access. In support of this hypothesis, Mr David Calderwood, who lived at that period, and hath left a manuscript History of the Affairs of Scotland, says, that Earl Gowrie's porter, and Doggie his waiter, were serving Lord Scone when he wrote of this transaction, shortly after it happened. The places occupied by these servants gave them the best opportunity of admitting persons into their master's house; and Mr Calderwood, by mentioning them as being soon after Lord Gowrie's death taken into the service of Lord Scone, who was a considerable sharer in the division of Lord Gowrie's property and offices, certainly means to insinuate, that these servants were retained by their present master in reward of having betrayed their former one. That this same Lord Scone, formerly Sir David Murray, was informed of the King's evil designs against Lord Gowrie's life, appears from a circumstance mentioned by Mr Calderwood. In a Convention of the States held at Edinburgh, very soon after the Earl's return to his native country, after an absence of almost six years, he strenuously opposed his Majesty's measures about some proposed taxation, upon which Sir

David

David Murray said, "There is an unhappy man, they are but seeking an occasion of his death, and now he has given it." That Dr Herris, one of the three armed men who were lodged in the closet, was acquainted with the mischief that was meditating against the Gowrie family, is also mentioned by Mr Calderwood. Mrs Beatrix, a sister of Earl Gowrie's, and one of the Queen's ladies, laughed at the Doctor's bowed legs; he took her by the hand, considered it after the manner of a fortune-teller, and said, "Mistress, before long a great disaster will befal you."

However, it is not my intention to consider this subject in its full extent; all that I farther propose about the matter, is to take notice of a few facts which connect with this affair, and throw light upon it, which I have had occasion to discover by looking into some old records belonging to the town of Perth, and shall add some observations and reasonings from them.

Mr William Coupar, one of the Ministers of Perth at that time, came very soon and very seasonably with a story to support the King's account of this matter, and great stress was laid upon it then, and since, by persons who have been investigating this subject. Mr John Spottiswood, at that time parson of Calder, in Mid-Lothian, who was afterwards, in 1615, promoted to be Archbishop of St Andrew's, gives the following account of Mr Coupar's story. "I remember," says he, "that, meeting with William Coupar, then minister at Perth, the third day after it, in Falkland, he shewed me, that not many days before that accident (he means the conspiracy) happened, visiting by occasion the Earl at his own house, he found

found him reading a book, *De Conjurationibus adversus Principes*. Having asked him what book it was, Earl Gowrie answered, It was a collection of the conspiracies against Princes, all of which, he said, were foolishly contrived, and faulty in one point or other, for he that goeth about such a business, said the Earl, should not put any man on his council. Mr Coupar not liking such discourse, desired him to lay away books of that kind, and read others of a better subject. He then proceeds to give his own opinion of the matter in the following words: "I verily think he was then studying how to go beyond all conspirators recorded in any history; but it pleased God, who giveth salvation to Princes, (as the psalm speaketh), to infatuate his councils, and, by his example, to admonish all disloyal, traitorous subjects, to beware of attempting any thing against their sovereigns." This story was produced very opportunely, and, we may believe, it was most acceptable.

Earl Gowrie's servants were examined, and several of them executed, solemnly declaring that they knew of no conspiracy. His travelling governor, Mr William Rhynd, a most worthy man, was put to the torture twice at least, and in these circumstances declared that he knew of no conspiracy. No person knew or could bear testimony of any such thing; but Mr Coupar accounted for all this, by telling that Earl Gowrie had premeditated to put no man on his council. I shall only observe at present, that though Mr Coupar's story in a single point of view seems to serve the King's purpose, it is against it on the whole, for there are symptoms of debility, and even suicide, attending, that are more than sufficient to destroy it. The reverend

rend gentleman says, "I verily think that he (meaning Earl Gowrie) was studying to go beyond all conspirators recorded in any history." Do facts support this assertion? The King is brought to Earl Gowrie's house, according to their own account, within an hour of mid-day, attended with a considerable retinue; and there was a plot formed to assassinate him, the very house where he was, and the doors about it, being occupied by his attendants: Has this the aspect of a studied conspiracy? if you look for it from Earl Gowrie, there could not be any thing so simple and stupid. If the King had been killed, it must have ruined the Gowrie family; as his Majesty had publicly gone into the Earl's house, he was accountable for him: The nation would have required him to produce their Sovereign. It must have obviously occurred to Earl Gowrie, that the utter extirpation of himself and family would be the unavoidable consequence of the King's being destroyed, or having disappeared in his house. The fate of his own father was a recent and striking example of the danger of meddling with the person of a King. If King James had been killed in a clandestine manner by some unknown person, Mr Coupar's story might have furnished a thread of direction to travel through a dark labyrinth; but there is no circumstance appears in the transaction of that fifth of August, on the part of Lord Gowrie and his brother, from which one could conclude, that there was a well-concerted scheme, premeditated by a man of eminent abilities, improved by a most liberal education, for cutting off the King, in a way that should accomplish the purpose, and baffle all discovery. Mr Coupar seems to have felt

Digitized by Google

this difficulty, and endeavours to remove it by alledging that the providence of God had infatuated Earl Gowrie's council. God Almighty doth often defeat the wicked councils and purposes of men, by making some occurrence to interfere and counteract them; but still their councils do shew themselves, and instruct the deliberated ingenious malice of the contrivers; but here it would be necessary to believe that God had deprived Earl Gowrie of his reason, as if he meant to excuse the deed, by reducing the agent below the rank of accountable beings.

I now proceed to mention some circumstances which explain the access that Mr Coupar had to know Earl Gowrie's character, and the nature of that conspiracy, and will also explain the character of Mr Coupar, and the degree of credit that may be due to his testimony.

He had very little opportunity to form an acquaintance with the Earl of Gowrie. That nobleman left Perth at the age of seventeen years, in August 1594, to finish his education at a foreign university. He only returned to Scotland in the end of February 1600, arrived at Perth the 20th of May, and was killed there the 5th of August that same year. The Earl had a house in Perth, but the principal dwelling-place of the family was in the parish of Tibbermuir. His estates were extensive through Perthshire, his relations, vassals, and dependants, were very numerous; and after an absence of almost six years, it must occur to every person, that a crowd of company, and a multitude of objects, would engage his attention; and for the space of ten weeks, which was all the length of time that this unfortunate nobleman was allowed to

Digitized by Google

to live after he returned to his native place, it is scarce possible that any man, who before that period was an utter stranger to him, could procure such frequent and intimate access to his company, as would give sufficient opportunity to study his dispositions and character. Mr William Coupar was translated from Bothkennar, near Falkirk, to be minister of Perth, in the year 1595, after Earl Gowrie had gone abroad, and therefore could have no acquaintance with him, except in the few weeks he lived after his return to Perth: and a natural inference from this view of the matter is, that the shortness of the time did not allow sufficient space to ponder and bring forward the various particulars which such a transaction must have required.

Mr William Coupar was absent from Perth on that 5th of August, when Earl Gowrie and his brother were killed there. The session-record of Perth, dated August the 4th that year, contains the following fact: "No matters of discipline handled this day, the ministers being at the Synodal Assembly in Stirling." The Synod sat down at Stirling that very 5th of August, and the ministers of Perth had gone off the day before to attend it. Mr Coupar, therefore, being at such a distance, was not a competent witness of what was then doing at Perth; and his testimony on this account cannot be relied on, as if he had been on the spot, and known the immediate circumstances of the case, and the uncorrupted sentiments of mankind on the subject.

Mr Coupar went from Stirling to Falkland, and published his story before he came back to Perth; and Bishop Spotiswood writes, that William Coupar,

Digitized by Google

leaving Stirling, came to Falkland, where the King was, on Friday, August 8th, and there told of his having found Earl Gowrie reading the Book of Conspiracies, with his own very violent conclusion from this circumstance. Thus he was an ultroneous witness, without being called or suspected. Without taking leisure to examine matters, he rode immediately to the King, and unasked he comes out with his story. It has not the most favourable aspect when a person goes spontaneously to thrust in his evidence; and it looks exceedingly suspicious when he makes conclusions of his own contrivance, greatly stronger than he gives any ground to support. If a man, by looking into any book, gives reason to suppose that he is going to adopt all the principles, or execute all the mischief contained in that book, what man who reads can be safe for a moment? Mr Coupar, it is pretty clear, wished to recommend himself to his Sovereign, and probably even then had his eye towards that preferment which he attained not long after, being made a bishop of Galloway by a grateful Sovereign. Mr Coupar appears to have been a man of a political time-serving turn of mind. This agrees with the character given of him by some historians of that time, who give a bad account of him; and to me it is fully instructed by a deed I have seen, wherein he, after he was Bishop of Galloway, concurs with other bishops and temporal Lords, in introducing the magistrates of Perth to be managers of the Hospital there, and in alienating and complimenting the Hospital funds to the use of the burgh. If some others did this ignorantly, he certainly did it intentionally. Mr Calderwood mentions a fact, which shews that he had a bad

Digitized by Google

bad opinion of himself. When on his death-bed, he discovered great agitation of mind, by frequently beating on his breast, and calling out, "A fallen star, a fallen star!"

If these observations leave any credibility with Mr Coupar's story, it must be completely destroyed by the following undoubted circumstance. It appears, by looking into an account of the proof taken at the trial, on which the Earl and his brother were attainted and forfeited after their death, which was published by George, Earl of Cromarty, in the 1713, that William Coupar was not cited as a witness in that process; I confess that the discovery of this particular did very much surprise me. To what can it be ascribed? Not to their being ignorant of what he had to say; neither can it be ascribed to a want of concern for gaining credit to their story; the violence used to the ministers of Edinburgh, who were compelled either to feign belief, or to fly their country, shews an excess of anxiety on this point. The only account that remains of his not being called, is, that he could do them no good. It is easier to tell a story, than to swear to the truth of it; and if Mr Coupar could have verified what he had said, by giving his oath in confirmation, it is not supposeable that his evidence would have been overlooked; by omitting to get his tale authenticated, it is to be considered, in all reason, as totally deserted; and any credit that might otherwise have been due it, falls to the ground.

I shall now state some facts which I find to have been done by King James himself, shortly after the date of this unhappy affair, and which, it is presumed, will be looked upon as throwing much light on it.

Digitized by Google

The 15th of November that same year 1600, the King gifted a charter of confirmation to the Town of Perth of all their ancient rights and privileges; the date of it is on the very day when sentence of forfeiture was pronounced against Earl Gowrie and his brother; and the whole family was disinherited, declared incapable of enjoying any possession or honour, and the very surname of Ruthven prohibited for ever. This was an exceedingly severe sentence with respect to the younger brothers, and any branches of the family who were not so much as suspected of the least concern in the matter, and gives us no very favourable idea of the impartiality and justice of those who pronounced it. When we consider the date of the charter, and the size thereof, it being a small volume, it is necessary to suppose, that some time must have been employed in preparing it for the subscription; which will make the operations about it to coincide with the time spent about the trial of the alledged conspirators, which was from the 9th to the 15th of the said month of November; and there is reason to suspect that this matter might be made use of to influence the persons who had gone over from Perth to give evidence at the trial, and also to reconcile the people there to the sentence of Parliament when it should be reported; there is much reason to believe that these things were intended by it, when we examine the contents of this charter. Besides the privileges formerly enjoyed by said town, there were some new things granted, that must have been highly acceptable. His Majesty then ordered that Perth should afterwards be held prior to Dundee in the roll of burghs, and that the magistrates and commissioners thereof

Digitized by Google

thereof should in time coming have the precedence of any magistrates or commissioners of the same order belonging to Dundee. This point had often been warmly disputed between two jealous burghs, and was at that very time the subject of a keen, expensive, and tedious process. In the 1582, the Convention of the royal burghs met at Perth, and this question about priority and precedence between Perth and Dundee was brought before them as a competent Court, and they decided in favour of Perth. Immediately after, the burgh of Dundee commenced a process before the Lords of Council and Session, alledging that great injustice had been done them by the decision at Perth, which they affirmed had been obtained by the undue influence of William, the first Earl of Gowrie, then Provost of Perth, who had misled the Convention in that matter. His Majesty, during the subsistence of this process, by the new charter gave the point entirely in favour of Perth; but it did not end there, the process went on, and next year the matter by desire was submitted to his Majesty and Privy Council, who gave the priority and precedence for Perth, but endeavoured to soothe the people of Dundee, by retracting some privileges respecting the navigation of the Tay, which had been also granted by the said charter of confirmation to Perth, but were now given to Dundee. Nothing could be a higher gratification to the inhabitants of Perth. It was a stretch of prerogative to think of giving it, and the very submission which afterwards took place, shews that the King was sensible he could not grant it; however, it produced the effect, the Privy Council had too much courtesy to tear up what the King had done; but this straining

Digitized by Google

to favour the one town to the prejudice of the other, does ill accord with the hypothesis of the conspiracy at Perth, if we consider that the inhabitants of Dundee took arms when the report reached them that the King was in danger at Perth, and were advancing rapidly for his rescue. By this charter of confirmation, also, the sum of Eighty Pounds Sterling yearly, at that time paid into the Exchequer for his Majesty's use, was gifted for the following purposes, and in the following proportions, to the town of Perth: Sixty-nine Pounds, Eight Shillings, and Eightpence Sterling, to an hospital which his Majesty had some time before founded there; and the remaining Ten Pounds, Eleven Shillings, and Fourpence, to the bridge; and there is a fact which I believe holds with respect to this whole donation, but I am certain respecting the share thereof which now belongs to the hospital, that neither any charter, nor so much as any information thereof, was given to the hospital. The original grant in favour of the poor at Perth, which is called King James's Hospital, was made in the 1567, and the ministers and elders of Perth had from said date got the administration of certain funds belonging to said hospital; but this second grant was kept an entire secret from them, nor did they discover it till the year 1754, one hundred and fifty-four years after it was made. Is it not surprising that King James, when he made so large an addition to the hospital-revenue, being at that time nearly equal to all the other funds, should not have given them a charter for it, or at least instructed them of that article in the town's charter, by which they had right to demand it?

From these last-mentioned facts, I would argue in the

Digitized by Google

the following manner: If there was a conspiracy at Perth against King James on the day when Earl Gowrie, and his brother, Mr Alexander Ruthven, were killed there; if there be any truth in the circumstances mentioned by his Majesty as tending to the execution thereof, it is necessary to suppose, that there were several persons in the concert, prepared to support the principal actors; at any rate, it is certain, that all orders of people at Perth did on that occasion shew vast attachment to the Gowrie family, and by their behaviour expressed a decided opinion, that the death of Earl Gowrie, their Provost, and his brother, was a cruel murder. Let us try to suppose, that the King was conscious of his innocence, and that there had been a real plot to take away his life, was the town where an assassination had been attempted against him, immediately after a proper object of favour? Were those very persons, several of whom, it is likely enough, conspired to do this wicked action, and who had certainly insulted and threatened him on this trying occasion, entitled so soon to such extraordinary attention and good offices from him? One would imagine that the dread and the resentment of it would have induced him to keep at a distance from such a place, and to banish all thoughts of it for years to come; but before three months are over after such a wonderful escape, to find him employing uncommon exertions to heap honour and riches on that very city where such a horrid plot had been contrived, and almost executed against him, doth in my apprehension suppress all bounds of credibility. If we make Earl Gowrie, and others about Perth, the conspirators, his Majesty's conduct is unnatural and absurd; but if we place

Digitized by Google

place the conspiracy to the King's side, all the goodness shewn, and all the gifts bestowed, were employed with much wisdom and policy, to soften the sentiments of men, and put to silence their ill-natured conjectures and reflections on this subject. A long and violently contended for preference to a rival burgh, must have been extremely flattering; a donation to the poor is always a popular deed; if, therefore, the gift to the hospital should come to be known, it would prove an acceptable present to the people; but if it could be kept secret, (and I appeal to the impartial world, if its being kept an impenetrable secret for more than a hundred and fifty years does not give reason to believe that there was a settled scheme of covering it with perpetual obscurity), in this way, that donation, which was nominally to the hospital, was actually to the township, to the people of power in the place, and was meant as a bribe to make them have favourable thoughts, or at least keep silence about his Majesty's conduct in the matter of Earl Gowrie and his brother's death.

I have one other fact to mention, which concurs with the foregoing, in giving ground to believe, that King James took no little pains, at this particular period, to conciliate the affections of the citizens of Perth, and to procure popularity among them. A manuscript chronicle, preserved in the town, called Mercer's Manuscript, of very good credit, contains the following particulars. "April the 15th, 1601. The King's Majesty came to Perth, and was made burgess at the market-cross, subscribed the Guild-book with his own hand, Jacobus Rex,—*Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos.* There were eight puncheons

Digitized by Google

cheons of wine set down at the cross, and all drunken out. He received the banquet of the town." The same story of their having been a vast banquet and riot at Perth on that day, when his Majesty and courtiers, together with the magistrates and chief people of the place, were entertained at the expence of the town, is instructed by other vouchers; particularly, by the manuscript chronicle of one Patrick Dundee; and the record of his Majesty having then been made burgess with his own subscription, as mentioned above, is still extant at Perth; and a descriptive poem of that burgh, lately published *, bears, that the King was then made Provost of that town. To no other burgh did his Majesty shew so much respect; and this vast favour was crowded, within a smaller space than the compass of one year after Earl Gowrie's death. Perth was then a most darling object; but it does not appear that this partiality was continued to Perth, after gifts and feasting had quieted the tongues, and reconciled the minds of this honoured town to their then liberal and festive monarch. These circumstances in his Majesty's conduct are not the features of innocence; they do not express either suspicion or resentment of evil having been contrived against him there; but if the King himself, and those who acted with him in the matter, have contrived this most wicked deed, no conduct could be more artfully conceived, to quench the clamours of men, and to smother the remembrance of mischief.

I shall add a few observations, which have occurred chiefly by reading Lord Cromarty's account of this trial. The deposition of Andrew Henderson, who says that he was secretly lodged in the closet, stuffed in

* The Muse's Threnodie.

Digitized by Google

in his coat of mail, without being instructed and pre-engaged for the part he was to act, gives an air of fiction to his whole evidence. Who can believe that he could be put upon such desperate service without being told of it, and understanding to go through with it? Such an attempt was not to be trusted, except to one whose passions were excited and courage roused, to encounter the dangers, and overcome the horrors, of such a shocking deed. The conduct of the two brothers, and their last words, as witnessed after they were gone by the very persons who slew them, betray no consciousness of guilt nor indifference about character. Mr Alexander Ruthven was killed coming down the turnpike-stair from the closet; he had been twice wounded in the closet, and was thereafter run through the body. He made an effort, and was able, before he expired, to turn up his face to them who had pierced him, and to say, "Alas! he was not to blame." Sir Thomas Erskine, and those who were with him, running at the King's cry towards the closet, and finding Lord Gowrie in the close before the house-door, seized him, saying, "Thou art the traitor;" on which he asked what was the matter, and said he did not know with respect to the characters of the two brothers. The King says he was informed of Mr Alexander and the Duke of Lennox. Depones, That he informed him that he always acted as a man of prudence and worth. With respect to the Earl, himself, at the university of Padua, where he had been at his education, he was so much regarded, that in his last year there he was made rector of their college. He was much esteemed by Theodore Beza; and in the short time he lived after his return, his behaviour was

open

Digitized by Google

open and candid, as in opposition to the tax proposed by his Majesty; there appeared no reserve or cunning, much less any thing dark or diabolical, about him. There is nothing alledged respecting his character similar to such a deed, or that seems to approach it. In King James's character, on the other hand, there are several particulars that are equally atrocious.

The execution of William, the first Earl of Gowrie, after his Majesty was seventeen years of age, and had taken the government upon himself, for a fault which, when tried by the practice or opinion of the nation in those days, was not very great, and for which the King had solemnly pardoned him, and lived with him as fully reconciled, was not much inferior to it. The murder of Lord Down about the year 1590, shortly before made Earl of Murray by the courtesy of Scotland, he having married the Countess of Murray, daughter and heiress of the good Regent, as he was called, for no other offence but because this marriage, which was offered to him by the lady's mother and herself, interfered with his politics, was fully as bad as that of Earl Gowrie and his brother; and our own historians generally say, that the King set on the Marquis of Huntly, and Goodin of Bucky, who burned the castle of Dunnybristle, and murdered the Earl; and it is affirmed, that, with design to remove the odium of the nation, which his Majesty had incurred by this cruel assassination, he went into the General Assembly, and made that hypocritical declaration about the Presbyterian church of Scotland being the purest in the world, and that he was resolved to protect it to his life's end. His conduct in pardoning the Earl and Countess of Somerset, for the unexampled

Digitized by Google

pled murder of Sir Thomas Overburry, though he had prayed that God might curse him and his posterity if he pardoned them, and the execution of that great man, Sir Walter Raleigh, do clearly shew that dissimulation and artifice, cunning and cruelty, were striking features in James's character, and that supposing him to have ordered the killing of Earl Gowrie and his brother, it is not a singular nor anomalous circumstance in his history.

There was an appendix to, or second edition of this plot, which made so much noise some years after, that it will probably be expected I should take some notice of it when canvassing this subject. In the year 1608, the Earl of Dunbar informed the King's advocate that one Sprott, a notary at Eyemouth, knew something of some secret plotting between the deceased Earl of Gowrie and Logan of Restalrig, then also deceased, against King James. Sprott is apprehended by order of the said Lord Advocate, and he confessed that he had seen letters wrote by Restalrig about such a business, among the papers of one Laird Bower, who had been servant to Restalrig; and that he had abstracted the principal one, which he directed them how to find among his papers; and he said that he had concealed this matter till all the persons concerned in it were dead. He does not seem, then, to have thought that he was concerned in it himself, or had reason to apprehend any danger to his own person. His papers are searched, and instead of one, five letters are produced, four of them signed Restalrig, the other not signed at all, at least the subscription taken away, and none of them addressed to any person; and several clergymen and others deponed, that they believed

Digitized by Google

ved they were Restalrig's writing. They speak of some dark design which was to be executed at the danger of life and fortune; but it does not appear from the letters, to whom they were sent, or that they were ever sent to any person. * Here, then, is a gap in the evidence. To fill this, Sprott, after second thought, declares, that he had conversed on the subject with Laird Bower and Restalrig himself, and that, to his knowledge, these letters had been sent to Lord Gowrie, and returned by him, with other letters wrote by the Earl in answer thereto. This confidence in one who has not said that he was to be employed to act any part in the matter, appears both unnecessary and unreasonable. It is as extraordinary that, though he was admitted into the secret, he has not told what their design was; and after the great anxiety mentioned in the letters about burning or returning them to Restalrig, it is surprising that they should have been carelessly left in the keeping of a servant, and as carelessly allowed by the servant to remain among his ordinary papers. Another thing is equally surprising, that though, according to Sprott's account, there were answers by Earl Gowrie to these letters, and Earl Gowrie was cut off prematurely in the midst of this correspondence, we must suppose, and yet there were no letters about it, or traces of it found among Earl Gowrie's papers, nor indeed of any conspiracy, though all his letters and papers must have come, without disguise, into the hands of his prosecutors. Neither does this history correspond with Mr Coupar's narrative, and the first hypothesis about Gowrie's conspiracy, which was, that he had taken no person into his secret. It as little accords with the alledged conspi-

racy

Digitized by Google

racy at Perth. The King's declaration bears, that Mr Alexander Ruthven told his Majesty there was no help for him, he must die; whereas, by Mr Sprott's story, Earl Gowrie and Logan of Restalrig were corresponding in the month of July. On the 29th, and even on the 31st days of that month, were letters wrote by Restalrig sent to the other, and answers received from him, of some scheme which was to be executed against the King, at Restalrig's house of Fascastle; if, then, the Earl and his brother were employed in settling this plot at Fascastle till the first of August, which was to have been transacted there in a remote and cautious manner, how came they so soon as the fifth of said month to attempt assassinating the King almost publicly, and most imprudently, in the town of Perth? But if this story of Sprott's was as firm as a mountain in other respects, the concluding circumstance would make it vanish into smoke. He is tried, condemned, and brought to the gallows. He there acknowledges that he well deserved to be put to death; confesses that he had told many lies about the matter; affirms that all he had said since a certain date was true; and then promises that before he expired he would make some remarkable sign that what he now said was true. Accordingly his hands are left loose for the purpose, "and what was marvellous," says Lord Cromarty, "after he had hung some time, he lifted up his hands, and clapped them three times." People are not now so credulous about miracles; nor was Sprott, who, according to his own account was a liar and a conspirator, the person by whom, or for whom, such works were to be done. If God had been to work a miracle, he could have loosed his hands, or in some other way accomplished

Digitized by Google

accomplished it all himself. The having his hands loose manifestly indicates that there was some plan concerted among them, for which this clapping of the hands was to be the signal; and it is impossible to figure that it could be any thing else than encouraging a worthless man to proceed with a wicked story, by a promise, that, after hanging some time, on his making this sign, which they would call a miracle, the rope should be cut, and his life spared. But dead people tell no tales; and it was safest that he should not survive this transaction, to give an explanation of it. Lord Cromarty informs us, that Dr Abbot, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, happening to be in Scotland when Sprott was tried and executed, was convinced, by his behaviour, of the truth of Gowrie's conspiracy. But, in opposition to this, Dr Spottiswood, who was afterwards an Archbishop also, and who knew every thing about Sprott's trial, and was on the scaffold at his execution, did not believe him, and speaks of his story with contempt.

Upon the whole of this affair, I consider myself as well founded in saying, that Earl Gowrie, and his brother Mr Alexander Ruthven, did not conspire against King James the Sixth, as was affirmed by him, but that his Majesty did conspire against them, and caused their lives to be taken from them.

Unfortunate Earl Gowrie! thou hast been cruelly slaughtered! Horrible assassination did, on that fifth of August which proved so fatal to thy family, deprive thy country of as promising, as valuable a nobleman, as it has at any time produced. In foreign nations thou wast revered; in thine own nation thou wast basely murdered! Among strangers who knew

Digitized by Google

thy virtue, honour and esteem were accumulated upon thee; because thy virtue was great, when thou didst return to thine own, thy Sovereign degraded himself to become thine assassin, because he dreaded that very virtue which others admired! He robbed thee of thy life; and even that was not sufficient to satisfy his spite; courtesy and riot, donations and festivity, exhausted all their force to rob thee also of thine honourable fame, and to consign thy name to future ages in the abominable list of dark and detestable conspirators; this was worse than tenfold murder. How insatiable is savage cruelty! But, though justice may be perverted, it cannot easily be extirpated altogether; the sentiments of humanity may, for a time, be diverted by bribes, or drowned in uproar, but they will recur in this matter. Justice and humanity are recollecting themselves; and I doubt not but future ages will consider this article of history, which supreme power and cunning have studied to clothe with obscurity, as abundantly clear, and wonder that this ancient and honourable family, when extirpated by the cruelty of their King, should not have excited the strongest and most generous sympathy which their country could bestow.

MEMO-

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH.

SECT. IV.

CHARTERS RELATING TO THE PRIVILEGES OF PERTH.

No. 1.

The CHARTER of CONFIRMATION of the whole Rights and Privileges of the Burgh of Perth, confirmed by King James the Sixth, translated from the principal Latin Charter into English,

BY JOHN DAVIDSON, NOTARY PUBLIC,
A. D. 1653.

JAMES, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all honest men, both clerks and laiks of our realm, we wish you health. Be it known, because we now, long after our lawful and perfect age of twenty-five years, having first made all and sundry our revocations, as well special as general, and after the making of all and sundry our acts of dissolution of our property, made in our Parliament and public Convention of the Estates of our kingdom, holden at Edin-

Digitized by Google

burgh in the month of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand five hundred and ninety-four years, as other acts of dissolution made before. Having taken to our consideration the old, famous, and ancient constitution made to you our burgh of Perth, by our renowned predecessors the Kings of Scots, of most worthy memory, in making you a free incorporation, and a free, regal, and royal burgh, and of the great antiquity thereof, and of the commodious and pleasant situation, being in the midst of our native country and kingdom, conjoining the one half thereof to the other, and keeping them in obedience and subjection, and following of their Kings and their commands: And also considering our said burgh of Perth to be most apt, and commodious, and capable, both in time of peace and war, for keeping and holding public meetings of our estates, subjects, and people; and in which town our most illustrious predecessors, nobles, famous counsellors, and others our people, have lived; and also the court and counsellors of our kingdom, for determining the affairs thereof, have most often convened of long time since, and found the same most commodious for them; as also, in the time of war, both citizens, soldiers, and strangers, might convene there. In which our said royal burgh our most renowned predecessors, with their Queens, children, and family, have dwelt; as also we ourselves have been accustomed to dwell in our said royal burgh, and have used the same for our certain habitation and dwelling, and for the seat of war at all occasions; and in which our said royal burgh all the Parliaments and Convention of the Estates of our kingdom, now of long time since, were wont to convene and reside; and also seeing our said royal burgh of Perth is, and had been, most profitable and necessary for all uses to our kingdom.

Likeas the procurators and commissioners of the remanent burghs of our kingdom, being delegate and specially called and chosen by us, and our Estates of Parliament, for taking cognition of the case of our said royal burgh of Perth, by act of our Parliament, and public ordinance of our

Digitized by Google

our kingdom, all giving their own sentences and lawful decreet in one voice, without variance or dissension: Concluded, adjudged, and ordained, That our said royal burgh of Perth, and the procurators and commissioners thereof, shall be preferred, in order of antiquity and dignity, before our village * of Dundee; and that the inhabitants thereof, and commissioners and procurators thereof, give way and place of dignity to them, as their priors; and that in all our successors' Parliaments, public Convention of the Estates of the kingdom, and conventions of burrows and counsels, our said royal burgh of Perth shall have, and enjoy perpetually, the principality, prerogative, first place, dignity, and order; as also in giving votes and suffrages, shall be preferred before our said village (burgh) of Dundee, and the inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof; and that in the said village of Dundee, the inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof, shall altogether and wholly give place to our said royal burgh of Perth, inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof, in order of antiquity, priority of place, and dignity; and for that cause, that they altogether cease and leave off to contend with our said royal burgh of Perth, inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof, or to do unto them any, whatsoever trouble, skaith, or wrong, or to hinder or fash them in their lawful business. And because the bridge of our said royal burgh of Perth, which is called the Bridge of Tay, is a most precious jewel of our kingdom, and a work not only profitable and prymly necessary to our whole kingdom and dominion, and for the suppression of rebels, and such as are viciously affected, most commodious; and also keeping the one half of the kingdom, with the other half thereof, in faith, obedience, duty of office, towards us their Kings, in our kingdom and dominion. And, by reason of the manifold

 gifts,

* Village. *Villa de Dundee* should have been translated town, or burgh. Perth was anciently called *Villa de Perth*; and therefore the modern idea of Village neither suits Dundee nor Perth. Both of them were royal burghs when this charter was granted.

Digitized by Google

gifts, singular and egregious offices, done by the inhabitants and burgesses of our said royal burgh of Perth, often and at several times, towards our renowned predecessors, in matters concerning the public well of our kingdom, performed in most strict, dangerous, and difficult affairs: Our most renowned predecessors have not only beautified, but abundantly heaped on our said royal burgh of Perth, greatest benefices and egregious gifts, liberties, privileges, and immunities; that almost all the donations, liberties, benefits, and privileges, conferred on other royal burghs of our kingdom, are referred to our said royal burgh of Perth; and the benefices conferred on the said royal burgh of Perth (as being first bestowed on our said royal burgh of Perth, and in a manner depending thereon) are granted as agreeing thereunto. But also the said bridge, as a public and common work, is edified and builded upon the common tribute and expences of all the people and subjects of our kingdom and dominion: And because our most renowned predecessors (before any act of annexation) conferred and bestowed forth of their yearly burgage-farms of our said royal burgh of Perth (extending to the sum of eighty pounds Sterling money yearly), by parts and portions, the sum of sixty-nine pounds, eight shillings, and eightpence, sterling money, and perpetual alms, to the prior and convent of St Andrew's, abbot and convent of Scoon, abbot and convent of Cambuskenyth, prior and convent of the Charter-house, beside our said burgh of Perth, to the Dominical Friars, or Minor Predicatory Friars, and to the Carmelite Friars, or White Friars of our said royal burgh of Perth, respective.—And also, before any act of annexation, they gave and disponed the residue of the said burgage-farms of our said royal burgh, in pure and perpetual alms, to the aldermen and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, in the same kind of Sterling money, to the sustentation and upholding of the said bridge of Tay. And likeways we, by our charter, have given and conferred, in pure and perpetual alms, to the hospital and poor of our said burgh of Perth,

Digitized by Google

Perth, the foresaid burgage-farms and portions of the same, whilk was first conferred and bestowed by our most renowned predecessors, in pure and perpetual alms, to the said abbots, convents, priors, and friars, respective, in manner foresaid. As also, in the yearly accompts of the said burgage-farms and rents, made and perfected by the bailies of our said burgh of Perth, and others in their names, in our exchequer, before the auditors of the same; the foresaid auditors did liberate and exoner the counters of the said burgage-farms, by allocating and approving to them of the foresaid sum of sixty-nine pounds, eight shillings, and eightpence Sterling money, allocate and paid to the said poor, and whilk first was paid forth of the said burgage-farms yearly, to the said priors, abbots, convents, friars, respective, as said is; and by the allocation and approbation made to the said counters of the said residue of the foresaid burgage-farms, as being allocate and conferred forth of the same in pure and perpetual alms, to the reparation, sustaining, and upholding of the foresaid bridge of Tay, as in our account-books and rolls underwritten of the said burgage-farms, made, compted, and perfected at more length, is contained.

And because we having in memory, and calling to mind the good, faithful, and thankful service and managing of many affairs, the many gifts and egregious offices which have been performed by our said royal burgh of Perth, citizens and inhabitants thereof, to our most renowned predecessors, how often occasion offered at all times bygone, as well in time of peace as war, in honour and praise of the native country, and that not only in our and our predecessors' public affairs, but also in the public and affairs of the commonwealth: We have resolved and determined to satisfy those services by commodity, as occasion offers, whereby we may manifest our thankful and benevolent mind towards our said royal burgh of Perth, burgesses and inhabitants thereof, and successors of the same. And seeing it is expedient for the part of satisfaction and recompence; likeas,

Digitized by Google

it is most conducible in time coming for the amply fixing of our crown and kingdom, and for the exciting and stirring up others to the performance towards us and our successors, of all those offices performed to us by our said royal burgh of Perth: Therefore all and sundry donations, benefices, possessions of lands, profits, rents, liberties, privileges, communities, commodities, accidents, casualties, and others whatsoever, at whatsoever time the same hath been granted, given, and conferred on our said royal burgh of Perth, either by us or our royal predecessors; we will that the same remain and be observed, defended, beautified, and augmented with many and greater immunities, privileges, profits, and rents, to our said royal burgh of Perth, provost, aldermen, counsellors, and community thereof, and their successors, and to the said hospital and poor of the same.

We therefore, approving of the premises, and for diverse other good deeds and considerations in reason moving us, of our certain knowledge and proper motion, with the advice, counsel, and consent of our well-beloved and faithful counsellors, Sir David Murray of Gospetrie, Knight; our treasurer, John, Earl of Montrose; our chancellor of our kingdom; and Mr John Skene, clerk of our rolls and registers, not only have we ratified and approven, but also for us and for our successors perpetually confirmed: Likeas, by the tenor of this our present charter, for the causes above written, with advisement, counsel, and consent foresaid, we ratify and approve, for us and our successors, perpetually confirm in all and sundry heads and articles, points, conditions, circumstances, and causes, conform to the tenors of the same in all things.

All and sundry the particular charters, infeftments, confirmations, decreets, indentures, titles, rights, securities, letters, writings, evidents underwritten, gifts, benefices, liberties, commodities, immunities, privileges contained in the same, made, given, granted, and confirmed by us, and our most renowned predecessors, Kings and Queens of this our kingdom, for the time, and made by others underwritten,

Digitized by Google

written, to our said royal burgh of Perth, provost, aldermen, counsellors, bailies, citizens, burgesses, and community thereof, and their successors, and to the said hospital and poor, and in their or either of their favours, to wit, ane charter made by umquhile William, King of Scots, of good memorie, founder and instaurator of our said royal burgh of Perth, after the vastation and ruins thereof by the inundation of the said flood and river of Tay; in which charter, under the great seal of umquhile William, King of Scots, it is firmly and expressly forbidden, that no merchant, being a stranger within the shire of Perth, shall buy or sell any thing without the said burgh of Perth, contrary the princely command; but that merchant-strangers carry their merchandise to the said burgh of Perth, and there to sell the same, and to employ the money there; and if any stranger-merchant (contrary to this command) bees found in the said shire of Perth keeping or selling any thing, that he shall be taken and detained in prison during the King's pleasure, and to abide what shall be commanded concerning him. Likeas it is firmly prohibited, that no stranger-merchant shall cut cloth for selling the same within the said burgh of Perth, except fra the day of the Ascension of our Lord, until the feast of the Bonds of St Peter. Betwixt which times they shall have liberty to cut their cloth for selling the same in the merket-place of Perth; and there they shall sell and buy cloth, and other merchandise, promiscuously with the royal burgesses; reserving always the princely rectifying privileges.

Prohibiting also, that all those who abides within our said burgh of Perth, that they do not keep nor use trading with our royal burgesses in the merket-place, except they join themselves with them for paying these tributes and subsidies to his Majesty which is due, without any respect to be had whose men they are.

Prohibiting, that no tavern be keeped in any village of the shire of Perth, but only where a Knight is lord of the village, and remains in the same himself, and that there be

but

but one tavern there allenarly; granting also to his burgesses of Perth, that all of them shall be guild-brethren, except websters and waukers *.

Prohibiting also firmly, that no man abiding and remaining without the burgh, and within the shire of Perth, shall make any dyed or shorn cloth within the said shire; neither shall it be leissom to him to cause make any, but only leissom to those who are merchant guild-brether, and who do join themselves with the royal burgesses of Perth in payment of tributes and subsidies to the King, except only those who had a charter granted to them of this liberty before this time. And therefore firmly prohibiting, that no man within the said shire of Perth presume to make any dyed cloth, under the pain of plenarie regal forfaultrie: And if there shall any dyed cloth, or shorn cloth, be found made contrary to the King's command, commanding the sheriff, how oft he shall find any such cloth, that he do hereby conform to the law and consuetude that was made in the time of David, King of Scots, his good sire. Granting most justly his firm peace to all those who draw along trees and materials to the said burgh of Perth; and therefore prohibiting that any shall disturb them in their buying or selling, after that be once come within the space of one leuk of land distant from the said burgh of Perth. And granting to the said burgesses of his said burgh of Perth all the said liberties and consuetudes, and confirming the said charter.

Prohibiting also firmly, that no ſtranger dwelling without the burgh of Perth shall buy or ſell skins or wool, except within

* This ridiculous exception of weavers and waukers has been wisely taken away by a late act of Parliament for the encouragement of the manufactures. Weavers are now considered among the most useful and ingenious classes of craftsmen in the kingdom, who, by their improvements and industry, have increased the reputation and wealth of the nation. To brand this useful set of people with ignominy, was unpolitical and ungenerous.

Digitized by Google

within the said burgh allenarly. And sicklyke ane charter of confirmation and donation made and granted by Robert, the third of that name, King of Scots, of good memorie, under the great seal, of the date, at Edinburgh, the fifth day of May, and of his reign the tenth year, ratifying and confirming the former charter insert in the same, made and granted by the said King William. And sicklyke, also giving and granting to the said provost, bailies, burgesses, and community of the said burgh of Perth, and to their successors who shall be for the time, perpetually to the reparation, building, and mending of the said bridge of Tay, all the fynes, amerciaments, and escheats that shall happen to occur, or should justly occur by and through whatsoever transactions and attempts, contrary to the same foresaid charter insert in the foresaid charter of confirmation.

And sicklyke ane charter of few-ferm, made and granted by umquhile Robert, the second of that name, King of Scots, of good memorie, under the great seal, of the date at Dunfermline the twenty-third day of July, and of his reign the fourth year. To the well-beloved and faithful friends, the aldermen, burgesses, and communitie of the said burgh of Perth, of all and haill his foresaid burgh of Perth, to have and be holden by the said aldermen, burgesses, and community, and by their heirs and successors in fee and heritage perpetually in all the right divided marches thereof; together with the waters, stanks, milns, multures, and their sequells, with the Inches thereof lying within the water of Tay, viz. the Law, of Inchirret, Inchyra, and Sleeples; and with all the fishings pertaining to the said Inches, round about the same, upon all parts, and upon every part of the same adjoining, or that may adjoin to the same at any time hereafter. Together with the fishing of one net in the King's Inch; and together with all other his Majesty's fishings of the said Inches of the said burgh of Perth, together with the yearly rent of the roods of land, and burgage-ferms, tolls, and small customs of the said burgh of Perth: As also, together with moors, marshes, meadows, and pastu-

rages

Digitized by Google

rages thereof, and with the courts of the said burgh of Perth, and the fynes of the same: And with all and sundry other liberties, commodious easements, and righteous pertinents whatsoever belonging to the said burgh of Perth, or that justly may belong thereto any manner of way in time coming, as well within burgh as without the same, as well under earth as above, as freely, quietly, fully, entirely, honourably, as any burgh within our kingdom, enjoys in few-ferm with concession, and granting of our predecessors whatsoever of the said umquhile Robert, the second of that name, King of Scots, (reserving alwise to his Majesty and his heirs the great custom of the said burgh of Perth), the said aldermen, burgesses, and community of the said burgh of Perth paying alwise to his Majesty and his heirs the sum of eighty pounds Sterling money yearly, at the feasts of Whitsunday and Martinmas in winter, by equal portions allenarly. And that for all other service, consuetude, and demand, that may be asked forth of the same, (reserving alwise the foresaid great customs of the said burgh of Perth, as is above excepted): And sicklyke, the transumpt of the foresaid charter of the few-farm transumed forth of the register under the great seal of the most renowned and most illustrious Prince, James the Second, by the grace of God, King of Scots, of the date at Edinburgh the twenty-fifth day of October, and of his Majesty's reign the seventh year.

And sicklyke, ane charter made and granted by the most illustrious Prince, umquhile Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, to the foresaid burgh of Perth, and burgesses thereof, anent the guild of the same, and libertie to the merchants of the said guild for buying and selling all kinds of merchandise in general, in all places within our sheriffdom of Perth, chiefly within the water of Tay as far as Drumly, and within the same.

Prohibiting, That any stranger-merchant, with their ships and barks load with merchandize, coming within the water of Tay, and chiefly within Drumly, that they presume

Digitized by Google

sume to sell any merchandise, or to break bulk without the licence of the merchants of the burgh of Perth; commanding that the foresaid merchandise really, and in effect, be first offered to sell to the foresaid merchants of the burgh of Perth before any other, without fraud or guile, under the pain of amission and losing the said merchant-ware.

And sicklyke, letters made and granted by the said umquhile Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, of the date at Restennot the 29th day of June, and of his Majesty's reign the twelfth year, bearing, That what his Majesty's burgesses of the burgh of Perth, compearing before William Lindsay, chamberlain of the kingdom of Scotland, at Dundee, upon the Sabbath-day then immediately before the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Saint John the Baptist, did seek and inquire their liberty, that no ship coming within Drumlay with merchandise should be disloaded nor break bulk until she arrived at the foresaid bridge of the burgh of Perth, except she were loaded with the goods of the inhabitants of Dundee in the time of the fairs of Dundee. And therefore the said King Robert the Bruce commanded his said chamberlain to cause proclaim the foresaid liberty, and that his Majesty's foresaid burgesses of his said burgh of Perth should justly hold the same in their hands.

And sicklyke, ane confirmation made and granted by the most illustrious David, the second of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, of the date at Perth the tenth of April, and of his Majesty's reign the thirty-sixth year; ratifying and confirming the foresaid charter made and granted by the said umquhile, William, King of Scots, and also the other foresaid charter made and granted by the said Robert the Bruce, King of Scots,

And sicklyke, ane charter of confirmation made and granted by the said umquhile Robert the Third, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, of the date at Edinburgh sixth day of May, and tenth year of his reign; ratifying and confirming the foresaid letters made and granted by the foresaid Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, being word by

Digitized by Google

by word insert in the foresaid charter, all his Majesty's chamberlains of Scotland, that they should cause proclaim publicly the foresaid liberties, and that his Majesty's said burgesses of Perth should keep the same justly in their hands.

And sicklyke, ane charter made and granted by the said umquhile Robert, the third of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, of the date at Linlithgow tenth of April, and fifth year of his reign, to the provost, burgesses, and community of the burgh of Perth, that they and their successors should have perpetually a sheriff of their own burgesses and inhabitants of the said burgh of Perth, whom the aldermen of their own free and voluntary liberty shall make choice of, and to continue for so long time as they please, containing also the universal power and authority conferred on the said sheriff, and his successors and their deputies. Likewise granting and conferring to the said aldermen, burgesses, and community of the said burgh of Perth, that they should have and possess perpetually all the fynes, amerciaments, and whatsoever commodities of the said sheriff-court within the bounds of Perth, merches, fairs, and merkats of the same burgh, and accidents belonging thereunto whatsoever; and that for the sustentation, upholding, and reparation of the said bridge of Tay: Together with all and whatsoever amerciaments and fynes of the Justice-ayre within the said burgh of Perth, and bounds belonging thereto; and also with diverse other donations, liberties, and privileges granted and contained in the said charter.

And sicklyke, ane act, deliberation, and declaration of the auditors of the Exchequer, contained on the back of the foresaid charter, subscribed by Richard Robertson, substitute to Mr John Frazer, clerk of the rolls and register, bearing, That where, in ane Exchequer-court of King James the Fourth, holden at Edinburgh the eighteenth of June 1474, the said auditors to have taken inspection of the foresaid charter, and to have ordained, That all the fynes and amerciaments,

Digitized by Google

merciaments of the Justice-ayre of Perth, exacted of the inhabitants of the burgh of Perth, should be paid to the aldermen and sheriff of Perth, to the reparation of the said bridge of Tay; and that they should yearly make count of the said fynes and amerciaments, according as is set down in the said charter; and that the extract of the foresaid Justice-ayres be directed to the foresaid sheriff within the burgh then and in all time coming. And sicklyke, two separate charters made and granted by the said umquhile Robert, the third of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, ane thereof of the date at Linlithgow the tenth of May 1397, and of his Majesty's reign the eighth year; and the other of the said charters, dated at his Majesty's castle at Rothsey, twenty-eighth February 1397 years, and of his Majesty's reign the eighth year, to the community, burgesses, guild-brether of the same burgh of Perth, granting and conferring on them full and free authority, licence, and special power, that whensoever, wheresoever, and how oft soever they, or any of them, shall happen to find any forestallers within their liberty of the said shire of Perth, that they may take and apprehend the said forestallers, and arrest them and their goods whatsoever, and confiscate them, and carry away the same freely, giving and conferring the foresaid confiscations, amerciaments, and forestalled goods, to the burgesses, community, and guild-brether of the said burgh of Perth, and to their heirs and successors perpetually: And also all and sundry confiscations of whatsoever goods confiscate and taken by the sheriff and burgesses of Perth, how oft soever, whensoever, and wheresoever the said forestallers shall be convict, before whatsoever judge, whether within the burgh of Perth, or without the same, bestowed in perpetual alms for the sustentation and upholding of the said bridge of Tay, with diverse other heads contained in the said charter.

And sicklyke, ane other charter made and granted by the said umquhile Robert, the third of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, dated at Edinburgh the

Digitized by Google

the last day of January 1464, and of his Majesty's reign the fifteenth year, for the common and public utility of the kingdom, did dispone to the aldermen and community of the said burgh of Perth, and their successors perpetually, that eleven pounds Sterling money of the residue of the burgage-farms of the said burgh of Perth, (due and payable to his Majesty), to be holden and detained in pure and perpetual alms, for the sustentation and upholding of the said bridge of Tay, to be lifted and uptaken at two usual and accustomed terms in the year.

And sicklyke, ane charter made and granted by the said umquhile Robert, the third of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, dated at his Majesty's castle of Rothsey, first of March, and of his reign the sixteenth year, anent the commission and confirmation to the aldermen, bailies, councillors, and dean of guild, of the said burgh of Perth, who should be for the time; his Majesty's free power, and authority, and special licence, to make and ordain, with the consent and assent of the guild-brether of the said burgh of Perth; statutes and ordinances, constitutions and consuetudes, after mature deliberation, as is requisite, with the council and community of the said burgh, of and upon the said burgh, and inhabitants thereof, present and to come, of whatsoever state and condition they be of; and the same statutes, ordinances, constitutions, and consuetudes, to be of sufficient strength and use against all the burgesses and other incomers of the said burgh, and the penalties and unlaws to be lifted and uptaken how often it shall seem expedient, as well in the bailie-court of the said burgh of Perth, as in the guild-court of the same, and other courts whatsoever, to the utility, profit, and especially for the upholding of the foresaid bridge of Perth, containing also therein diverse other liberties, heads, and articles.

And sicklyke, an indenture, dated at Perth twenty-ninth of June 1464, made betwixt the aldermen, bailies, councillors, and community of the said burgh of Perth, for themselves and their successors on the one part, and umquhile Richard

Digitized by Google

Richard Eviot of Balhousie, for himself, his heirs and assignees, on the other part, anent the boot of Balhousie, and others, contained in the said indenture.

And sicklyke, ane charter of confirmation and vendition, made by umquhile Patrick Lord Ruthven, under his seal, together with the seal of umquhile Mr John Donyng, Vicar of Perth, procured by himself thereto, dated 24th December 1450 years: Ratifying and confirming certain evidents made and granted to the provost, burgesses, and community of the burgh of Perth, and their successors, by the said umquhile Patrick Lord Ruthven, and by his predecessors, Sir William Ruthven, Knight, his goodsire, and Sir John Ruthven, Knight, his father, of ane certain piece of land, with the pertinents, lying betwixt the Monastery of the Carmelites of Tullilum, and the common moor of the said burgh of Perth; selling also the said piece of ground, with the pertinents, to the said provost, bailies, burgesses, and community of the said burgh of Perth, and their successors, by title onerous, holden of our sovereign lord the King, in fee and heritage perpetually, renouncing all right that he might have or crave to the said common moor, and chiefly to that part commonly called Gateside, with diverse other heads and articles, contained in the charter of confirmation, and vendition respective.

And sicklyke, ane indenture dated at Perth 4th November, 1494 years, under the seals and subscriptions manual of umquhile Lord Ruthven, heritable proprietor of the barony of Ruthven, with the pertinents, and of umquhile William Ruthven, his son and apparent heir, tiar of the said barony, with the pertinents, made betwixt themselves, on the one part, and the provost, bailies, council, and community of the said burgh, and umquhile John Eviot of Balhousie, on the other part, anent the miln-lead, water-passage, and course of the milns of the said burgh of Perth, and anent the reparation and upholding of that work called Lowswark, whilk is the retainer and closer of the said

Digitized by Google

miln-lead, with diverse other heads contained in the said indenture.

And sicklyke, ane charter made and granted by the most illustrious Prince James, the second of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, dated at Perth 25th of March 1451, and of his Majesty's reign the sixteenth year, to and in favour of the burgesses and community of the burgh of Perth, and to their heirs and successors, burgesses of the same, exeeming and freeing them of all payment of custom of salt and skins, vulgarly called shortlings, scaldings, fulfeals, lentron ware, lamb-skins, tod-skins, calf-skins, coney-skins, otter-skins, mentioned in the said charter, containing also certain provisions anent the said skins, and salt-custom of the same.

And sicklyke, ane charter of confirmation made and granted by umquhile King James, the fifth of that name, King of Scots, under his Majesty's great seal, dated 10th of March 1527 years, and of his reign the fifteenth year, ratifying and confirming the foresaid charter insert in the same, made and granted by the said umquhile James, the second of that name, King of Scots, anent the said exoneration of the custom of salt and skins foresaid.

And sicklyke, all and sundry grants and donations made and granted by our most illustrious predecessors, to and in favours of our said burgh of Perth, provost, bailies, burgesses, and community thereof, and their successors, of and upon the crownership office, within our said royal burgh of Perth, together with the common liberties and casualties of the said office, and also the right and property of the said office, pertaining to the said burgh of Perth, and to the provost, bailies, counsellors, and community of the said burgh of Perth, and their successors; sicklyke, and in the same manner, as the possession of the same office hath continued with them and their predecessors, of a long time since of ancient memory, as witness the instruments and documents taken by them thereupon.

And

Digitized by Google

And sicklyke, three pieces of writes, or letters, one whereof is dated at Dunfermline 22d of May 1440, and two other patents, or letters, not indented, one thereof dated at the monastery of Dunfermline, 9th of June, the foresaid year 1440; and the other thereof dated at the foresaid monastery of Dunfermline, dated 16th of June 1440. All the within three pieces of writes, or letters, are made and granted by the abbot and convent of Dunfermline, under their common seal, to and in favours of the provost, bailies, and council of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, anent certain conditions and agreements, mentioned in the said letters, betwixt them on the one part, and the said abbot and convent of the said monastery of Dunfermline, on the other part.

And sicklyke, ane letter of confirmation made and granted by James, prior of the cathedral church of St Andrew's, and, in absence of the bishop thereof, general vicar, agent, and chaplain thereof, under the seal of the said office of vicarship, together with the seal of the said chapter of the said cathedral church of St Andrew's, dated at St Andrew's 3d of September 1440 years, ratifying and confirming the foresaid three piece of writes, or letters, insert word by word at length in the said letter of confirmation, made and granted by the said abbot and convent of Dunfermline, to and in favours of our said provost, bailies, council, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors perpetually, as said is.

And sicklyke, all and sundry donations and mortifications, made by whatsoever person or persons, to and in favours of our said burgh of Perth, provost, aldermen, bailies, counsellors, deans of guild, deacons of crafts, and burgesses, or to the hospital, or poor of our said burgh of Perth, respective, forth of whatsoever prebends, prebendaries, altars, altarages, chapels, chaplenaries, and benefices, founded and situate in our parish-kirk of Perth, or in whatsoever other chapel, kirk, or place, within the liberties of the

same; together with the right of patronage of the same, and forth and of whatsoever lands, annual rents already given, granted, and doted, and whatsoever confirmations of the the same made and past by us and our predecessors.

And sicklyke, two charters of our own, made by us under our great seal, to and in favours of our said hospital of Perth, ane thereof, dated at St Andrew's the 9th August 1569 years, and of our reign the third year; and the other of our said charters of donation, dated at Edinburgh 29th of July 1587, and of our reign the 21st year, duly confirmed by two special acts of Parliament and publick ordinances of the States of our kingdom, to wit, by an act of Parliament and public ordinance of the Estates of our said kingdom, residing at Edinburgh, the foresaid 29th July 1587 years; and by ane other act of Parliament, holden the 5th June 1592.

And sicklyke, the decreet given and pronounced by the said commissioners of our burrows, at Perth, 21st of June 1582 years, discerning, concluding, and all in one voice, without discrepance or dissention, ordaining; likeas we also, by the tenor of this our present charter, for us and for our successors, wills, discerns, and ordains, that our foresaid burgh of Perth, their procurators and commissioners of the same, shall be preferred, in order of antiquity and dignity, to our said burgh of Dundee, inhabitants, commissioners, and procurators of the same, and shall give place to them, in order of priority of place and dignity; and that in all and our successors Parliaments and public meetings of our States, in all other convention of Estates, or burrows and councils, the foresaid our royal burgh of Perth, their procurators and commissioners, shall have, and enjoy perpetually in all time coming, the principality, prerogative, first place, and order, and shall be preferred, in giving of votes and suffrages, before the said burgh of Dundee; their inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners, shall altogether, and in all things, give place to our said royal burgh of Perth,

Digitized by Google

Perth, inhabitants, commissioners, and procurators of the same, as being long before them in order of antiquity and dignity; and that they altogether cease, for that cause, to contend with our burgh of Perth, inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof, neither to do them any wrong, molestation, or skaith, nor to fash them in their lawful business and employments.

And sicklyke, all and sundry charters and donations, made and granted by us, and our most renouned predecessors, to and in favours of our royal burgh of Perth, provost, aldermen, bailies, counsellors, and community thereof, and their successors, anent the merkats and fairs of our said royal burgh of Perth, and chiefly the four free, publick, and special fairs of the same, to wit, the Palm fair, Midsummer fair, the harvest fair of St John, and the winter fair of St Andrew, and anent the liberties and privileges granted to the said fairs respective.

But also we, for the causes foresaid, with advisement, councel, and consent above written, have ratified and approven, and for us and our successors, perpetually confirmed; likeas we, by the tenor of this our present charter, ratifies and approves, and for us and our successors, perpetually confirms, all and sundry other charters, infeftments, confirmations, rights, titles, securities, letters, writes, and evidents whatsoever, donations, liberties, commodities, immunities, and privileges, contained in the same, made, given, granted, or conferred by us, or our predecessors, Kings and Queens of this our kingdom, and by others exercising the authority for the time, to our said royal burgh of Perth, provost, aldermen, bailies, counsellors, burgesses, and community thereof, and their successors, and to the said hospital and poor, or in favours of them, or either of them, of whatsoever form or forms they may be of, content or contents, date or dates, in all and sundry their heads, articles, conditions, circumstances, and clauses, contained in the same, after the form and tenor thereof in all things.

We will, and with advisement, counsel, and consent foresaid, we grant, and for us and our successors, perpetually discerns and ordains, that the foresaid generality shall noways derogate, hurt, or prejudice the foresaid speciality, and that the foresaid speciality shall no ways derogate, hurt, or prejudice the foresaid generality; and that this our present confirmation and approbation of the premisses, shall be perpetually, and in all time coming, as good, valid, and sufficient in itself, in all respects, to our said royal burgh of Perth, provost, aldermen, bailies, counsellors, burgesses, and community of the same, and their successors, as if the said generality were reduced to speciality, and as if the foresaid charters, infeftments, confirmations, titles, rights, securities, letters, writings, and evidents above specified, and remanent premisses, and others comprehended under the said generality in this our present charter, was at length, word by word, herein insert: Whereanent we, with advisement, counsel, and consent foresaid, have dispensed, and for us and our successors, dispense perpetually. Moreover we, with advisement, counsel, and consent foresaid, nevertheless without hurt, derogation, or prejudice of the former charters, infeftments, confirmations, rights, securities, letters, writes, and evidents, particularly above-specified, and others above generally mentioned, donations, liberties, commodities, immunities, privileges, contained in the same, but, in further corroboration thereof, multiplying and heaping rights to rights, of new again, we locate and in few-farm have heritably demitted, and for us and our successors perpetually confirmed; likeas, by the tenour of this our present charter, of new, we locate, and in few-farm perpetually and heritably demits, and for us and our successors perpetually confirms, to the provost, bailies, counsellors, burgesses, and community of our said royal burgh of Perth, and their successors perpetually.

All and hail our said burgh of Perth, together with the town-walls of the same, ports, fowlies, trodden streets, ways,

Digitized by Google

ways, passages, stanks, bridge, ports, entrie, and building of the said bridge, the South and North Inches, the territory of the milns, miln-leads, multures, as well astricted as other services, sequels, with other commodities of the said milns, miln-leads, and clouses of water or dams of the same, as well already inclosed, as to be closed hereafter, and the dam and intake of the said miln-lead, called Lowswark; as other passages of the said milns, miln-lead, and clouses in every part and passage, within and without the common walls of the said burgh of Perth, together with the common muir called the Burrow Muir of the said burgh of Perth, as well that part of the said muir called Gateside, as the rest of the parts of the same, with all loans, passages, roads, ways, leading to and from the said muir, as well the High-street road, way, and passage leading to the north from our said burgh of Perth, beside our over miln thereof, and the two long ways thereof called the Long Causeway and the Cow Causeway, as all other passages on every part of the same; together with all liberties and privileges of our said burgh of Perth, and all lands, tenements, and annual rents, lying, or lifted and uptaken, within our said burgh of Perth, and liberties thereof; together with the stank called the Spey Stank, and passage thereof, and the tower called the Spey Tower, ports, and others belonging to our said burgh of Perth; together with the Inches lying within the water of Tay, to wit, the Law of Inchirret, Inchyrie, and Sleeples; together with all other our fishings pertaining to the said Inches, lying either round about the same, and upon every part of the same, or wheresoever the same lies, or may or should lie, any manner of way hereafter; together with the fishing of a net of the King's Inches, and with all other our fishings of the said Inches of our said burgh of Perth; together with the yearly rents of the roods of land, and burgage-ferms, tolls, and small customs of the ports of our said burgh of Perth, and all things transported thereat, conditions, privileges, and casualties of

Digitized by Google

the same; and of the said ports, and things transported to fairs and merkets, ways and streets thereof, with the pynorie and gate-dightings, with the timber, and timber-merket used and wont, and all customs and exactions, collected and accustomed to be collected, by whatsomever person or persons, for whatsoever kind of things or goods carried to our said street of Perth, that the same may be sold there: Together with the muirs, marishes, meadows, pasturages, grassings, and with the courts of Perth, blood weits and amerciaments, escheats, and commodities of the said courts, and with all and sundry other liberties, commodities, profits, easements, and righteous pertinents thereof whatsoever, pertaining, or that may justly pertain, to our said burgh of Perth in time coming, as well within as without the same, as well under as above the earth, and all and sundry other liberties, privileges, and immunities thereof, and others whatsoever, enjoyed by our said burgh of Perth, and inhabitants thereof, at any time bygone; and with privilege and power to the said provost, bailies, counsellors, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and successors, of building, having and holding within our said burgh of Perth and liberty thereof, more milns, as well wind as water milns, and other miln-leads and water-clouses, malt-barns, kilns, houses, buildings, and others necessary and expedient thereto, for the common and public utility and profit of our said burgh of Perth; together with the weekly merkets, one whereof on Wednesday, and the other on Saturday; together with the four free public fairs, four times in the year, one whereof at Palm Sunday, the second thereof at Midsummer, beginning the 24th of June, the third thereof beginning on the day of the Feast of St John the Baptist, or 29th of August, and the fourth thereof beginning on St Andrew's day, being the penult day of November; together with right to have and hold the said four free and public fairs, and the courts of the same, with the pertinents, for the hail space and days used and wont; together with the tolls

Digitized by Google

tolls, customs, commodities, sheriff-fees, bailie-gloves, and other accidents and casualties belonging to the said merkets and fairs, and to the courts of the same.

And sicklyke we, with advisement, councel, and consent foresaid, gives and grants, and for us and our successors, perpetually confirms to our said burgh of Perth, provost, bailies, council, and community thereof, and their successors, perpetually, ample, full, and free jurisdiction, liberty, and privilege of the water of Tay, in loading and livering ships, barks, boats, and other sea-vessels whatsoever, both great and small, in whatsoever part, port, or station, shoar, in the mouth, by the sides, or in the current of the said water of Tay, or in their option or free will, from Drumly, and within the same, with full power to them to impede and forbid all other whatsoever, from loading and livering of whatsoever ships, barks, barges, boats, and other sea-vessels whatsoever, small or great, in any part of the said water of Tay, or in any side of the same, and with full power to the saids provost, bailies, counsellors, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, deputes, collectors, and servants, in their names allenarly, and to none else, to ask, lift, receive, and collect all small customs, anchorage, and port-money, tributes, duty, and others whatsoever, within the said bounds of the said water of Tay, as freely, in all respects, as our burgh of Edinburgh also lifts and receives at our village of Leith, and as freely as the same is lifted, asked, and uptaken by whatsoever other royal burgh, or any other person at whatever free port within our kingdom: Exeeming simpliciter, and altogether freeing, all and sundry ships, barks, barges, boats, and other sea-vessels whatsoever, small or great, and all goods and gear whatsoever pertaining, or at any time shall pertain, to our said burgh of Perth, provost, bailies, citizens, burgesses, inhabitants, and community of the same, and their successors, or pertaining to themselves, or to strangers or foreigners coming within the said water of Tay within

Digitized by Google

within Drumley, from all payment for the said goods, for whatsoever cause, persuasion, or occasion whatsoever, of whatsoever taxation, tribute, toll, custom, imposition, exaction, anchorage, portage, and tonnage, bygone customs, and other duties, for whatsoever causes, deeds, or occasions bygone, present, or to come; to the provost, bailies, council, and community of the said burgh of Dundee, and their successors, or any of them, or to their customers, collectors, or servants, and officers, or to whatsoever person or persons, but shall only pay to our said burgh of Perth, and common good of the same; and the same to be asked, lifted, and collected by the said provost, bailies, counsellors, burgesses, and community of our burgh of Perth, and successors, their deputies, collectors, and servants, in their names allenarly, and to none others, excepting the great customs of the same, to be paid to us and our successors: Wherefore also, and for that same reason and respect, and because the said jurisdiction, liberty, and privilege of the said water of Tay, and right of the same within the bounds above written, doth pertain and belong allenarly to our said burgh of Perth as said is: We, with advisement, council, and consent foresaid, for us, and our successors, by the tenour of this our present charter, summonds, charges, and commands the said provost, bailies, counsellors, and community, and inhabitants of the said burgh of Dundee, and their successors, customers, collectors, servants, officers, and other messengers whatsoever, that they themselves, or any of them, or any in their name, presume or force, or take upon them at any time hereafter, to molest, vex, impede, prohibit, hinder, or arrest whatsoever citizen, burgess, or inhabitant of our said burgh of Perth, present and to come, or any ship, bark, barge, boat, or other sea-vessel whatsoever, small or great, or the goods and gear whatsoever pertaining to them, or to any stranger or foreigner coming within the said water of Tay within Drumley; or to take, seek, exact, collect, uptake, or receive from them, or for that cause, or for themselves,

Digitized by Google

themselves, or for any part of them, whatsoever taxation, tolls, tributes, customs, impositions, exactions, anchorage, postage, or tonnage-silver, small customs or duties whatsoever, for whatsoever cause, deed, or occasion soever, bygone, present, or to come, or any other way whatsoever to impede or prohibit them, directly or indirectly, in loading and livering at whatsoever port, station, shore, or part, wherever they please within the said water of Tay, and chiefly within Drumley. And we interdyte them, and every one of them, from exacting any duty of them for the cause foresaid, simpliciter, now and in time coming.

We prohibite also, and inhibite simpliciter, that no stranger-merchant coming with ships, barks, barges, boats, or other sea-vessels, small or great, load with goods and merchandise within the water of Tay, and chiefly within Drumley; that they, nor any of them, presume to sell any of them, or break bulk, until the same come to the bridge of Tay; and that no ship, bark, barge, boat, or other sea-vessel whatsoever, small or great, coming within Drumley with merchandise or goods, shall disloaden therein, or break bulk, until she come to the bridge of our said burgh of Perth, except she be loadned with the goods of the inhabitants of our said burgh of Dundee, or in the time of the fairs thereof, but only by the licence of the council and guild-brether of our said burgh of Perth, to whom before all others the said merchandize and goods really and in effect should be offered to be sold at a reasonable, cheap, and commodious price. And the same being refused by them, it shall then be liesome to them to sell them to others, all frauds and deceit being removed, under pain of loss and confiscation of the goods so sold, whose escheat and confiscation shall pertain to the common good of our said burgh of Perth, and shall be given and applied to the reparation and upholding of the bridge of Tay.

And sicklyke, We, with advisement, counsil, and consent foresaid, gives, grants, and for us and our successors perpetually

Digitized by Google

petually confirms the foresaid office of crownership, to our said burgh of Perth, the provost, bailies, counsellors, and community thereof, and their successors, which they and their successors shall have perpetually in all time coming, within the burgh and jurisdiction thereof, in all justice-eyres and justice-courts, and at other times whatsoever, to be crowners among their own burgesses and inhabitants of our said burgh of Perth, whom the provost, bailies, counsellors, and their successors, shall choise yearly, or for how long time they please. Commanding our successors, their justices and their deputes, crowners and their deputes, officers and messengers within our kingdom, present and to come; that none of them presume, in time coming, to hinder business, make delays or impediments in our said burgh of Perth, to the citizens, inhabitants, or burgesses thereof, in the discharge, using, and execution thereof of sheriffship; or by lifting or uptaking of the commodities, profits, accidents, or casualties of the said office of Crownership, or to usurp the said office against our burgh of Perth, citizens, burgesses, inhabitants thereof, or any of them in time coming, in commanding, citing, summoning, arresting, vexing, troubling them or any of them any manner of way; prohibiting and discharging them, and all messengers, carriers of the King's arms, and other messengers whatsoever, from discharging their said offices and place in this part and business in perpetual. With free and plain faculty and power to the said provost, bailies, counsellors, citizens, burgesses, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors in all time coming, when and how oft the justice-eyre and court of justice shall be holden, tha they shall have within our said burgh of Perth and liberties thereof, ane armed guard to serve and keep the tolbooth, and other places in which the said justice-eyres and courts of justice shall convene and sit, whensoever it shall be expedient to hold any of the saids courts; and shall keep the passages, entries, doors, yetts, and stairs of the same, without

Digitized by Google

without any impediment or action against them for that cause; sicklike as they themselves, and their predecessors in all time bygone, have been in continual use and peaceable possession of the same privilege, and have enjoyed the same without any interruption.

And sicklike, We, with advisement, council, and consent foresaid, gives, grants, and for us and our successors perpetually confirms, the office of sheriffship to our said burgh of Perth, and to the saids provost, bailies, counsellors, and community thereof, and their successors; and that they and their successors shall have a sheriff of their own, burgesses and inhabitants of our said burgh of Perth, whom the said provost, bailies, counsellors, burgesses, inhabitants, and community thereof, shall at their free-will and pleasure chuse yearly, or for how long time they please, whilk sheriffs and their successors, sheriffs of our said burgh of Perth for the time, shall have, by this our charter, our and our successors liberty, power, and authority, to administer, rule, and govern the full and entire office of the sheriff within our said burgh of Perth, and within the said hail water of Tay, upon every side and every part of the same, from Drumly and within the same, and in all lands, waters, and other places pertaining to our said burgh of Perth, liberties and jurisdiction thereof whatsoever, and for keeping and defending the said markets and public free fairs, and their courts for punishing justly, and duly correcting transgression, escheat, amerciaments, profits, fines, and commodities arising thereto, to uplift and keep whilk amerciaments, fines, commodities, accidents, and casualties of the said office and sheriffship, with the hail profits and duties of the said sheriff-courts within our said burgh of Perth and water of Tay, lands, waters, and other places pertaining to our said burgh of Perth, any manner of way, and within the liberty, superiority, and jurisdiction thereof, and whatsoever escheats thereof, amerciaments, fines, and commodities of the said justice-eyre and courts of justice within our said

Digitized by Google

said burgh of Perth, lands, territories, and jurisdiction of the same, whensoever the same shall happen, together with the escheats, fines, and amerciaments, of whatever persons, citizens, burgesses, and inhabitants within the said burgh of Perth, that shall happen to be convicted and condemned for whatsoever crime, fact, injurie, offence, or occasion whatsoever in time coming, before the prefect and chief quesitor of capital matters, or justice-general and his deputies, or whatsoever judge or judges within our kingdom, or that flies for fear of the saids crimes, or are thought to become fugitive; or those that put violent hands in themselves, by drowning in water, or by hanging themselves, or by poisoning themselves, or by suffocating or strangling themselves, by the jogs, or any other way whatsoever they take away their own lives, or prove an occasion or cause of their own proper death by whatsoever ways or means. We for us and our successors gives, grants, and dispones, to the foresaids provost, bailies, counsellors, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors perpetually; to the help, reparation, and upholding of the said bridge of Tay, of our said burgh of Perth, and other public works thereof in perpetual, with power to our said sheriff within our said burgh of Perth for the time, to substitute deputes under himself, one or more, for whom he shall be holden yearly to give account before the auditors of the Exchequer for the time, according to use and consuetude.

Commanding and charging, by thir presents, the principal quesitors of capital crimes, or justice-general, or their deputes whatsoever, and the said crowners and sheriffs, and their deputes for the time, and other judges whatsoever, present and to come, within our kingdom, and all and sundry others our and our successors, their officers, sergeants, and others whom it concerns or may concern; that they defend, protect, fortify, and hold hand to the said provost, bailies, counsellors, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, in expeding, exercing prosecution,

Digitized by Google

tution, lifting, importing, and defending them anent the premisses in all things, and shall assist them with their help, council, and travel, and shall promptly prepare, answer, intend, and do. To the effect it may be promptly prepared, answered, and they satisfied of all and sundry profits, commodities, casualties of said office of crownership and sheriffship, and of the said fynes, escheats, penalties, amerciaments, and commodities of the said justice-eyre and courts of justice holden in whatsoever parts of our kingdom, upon the said citizens, inhabitants of our said burgh of Perth, for whatsoever their crime, fact, injurie, or offence, as said is; commanding likewise all and sundrie whom it concerns or may concern, under all pain which after may follow, That they promptly answer, prepare, and intend the said crowners, and sheriffs of our said burgh of Perth and their deputes for the time, in all and sundrie things concerning and belonging, or that may concern the said office of crownership and sheriffship.

And sicklike, we, for us and our successors, with advice and consent foresaid, gives and grants, and for us and our successors perpetually confirms, the office of guild and function thereof, to our said burgh of Perth, citizens, burgesses, council, and community thereof, and their successors, except websters and waukers, and that they have their merchant guild, dean of guild, and guild council. And that they choise yearly their dean of guild and his council, with all commodities belonging thereto. Prohibiting and forbidding, that no merchant, and others whatsoever, without our said burgh of Perth and liberties thereof, and within the shire thereof, shall, either by land, sea, or water, buy or sell any whatsoever victual, merchandise, goods, or other merchant-ware, but they carry the same to our said burgh of Perth, and there to sell the same, and there to employ their money in buying, selling, and in exchange and permutation of wares; and that there be no taverns kept in any village of our said shire of Perth, but where a Knight is lord of the village, and dwells and remains there him-

Digitized by Google

self, and that there be but one only tavern there. And that no man without our said burgh of Perth, dwelling in our said shire thereof, presume to make, or cause be made, any dyed, mixt, or shorn cloth, but allenarly the citizens and burgesses of our said burgh of Perth, within the merchant guild thereof, and they who communicates and contributes with them in paying of all tributes and bearing of burdens; commanding and forbidding also the said sheriff of our said burgh of Perth, present and to come, that they take all such cloth before mentioned, wheresoever the same can be apprehended, and to do therewith, and dispose thereupon, at their will and pleasure. Commanding and charging also, that no man without our sheriffdom of Perth buy or sell timber, materials, bark, hydes, skins, lint, wool, merchandise, salt, wax, over-sea wares, or staple goods, or bind the same in bunches or burdens, or to pack or peel bark, or lime skins, or hydes, but within our said burgh of Perth and liberties thereof allenarly, but they carry the said goods to our said burgh of Perth, and exhibite and produce the same publickly, to be sold in the open and publick merket-place thereof.

Prohibiting, that any stranger-merchant, who is not a citizen or free burgess of our said burgh of Perth, shall cut any cloth to sell within our said burgh, except from the day of the Ascension of our Lord, until the Bands of St Peter, within which terms we will that they cut their cloth, for selling the same in the said fairs and public markets of our said burgh of Perth, beginning at the said twenty-fourth day of June; and there they shall buy and sell cloth, and other merchandise commonly, together with our citizens and burgesses, sicklyke as our royal burgesses do, (reserving to us and our successors the rectifying power). Commanding and charging also, that all those dwellers and inhabitants of our said burgh of Perth, present and to come, who themselves and their families are nourished, supplied, and upholden, by the fairs, fish and flesh markets of our said

Digitized by Google

said burgh of Perth, or who lives by buying and selling in the said merkets, or are accustomed to sell victual, or other merchandize whatsoever, within our said burgh of Perth, or fish or flesh-merkets, or fairs of the same, that they undergo tribute, and bear burden with our citizens and burgesses of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, in watching, warding, skatling, letting, stenting, and paying of taxations and impositions, contributions, and others.

And sicklike, we, with advisement, councel, and consent foresaid, by the tenour of this our present charter, gives and grants, and for us and our successors, perpetually confirms to the said provost, bailies, counsellors, deans of guild, of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors for the time, our and our successors, free and full power and authority, and licence, to make and ordain, with consent and assent of the guild-brether of our said burgh of Perth, after mature deliberation, as becomes, being convened in a frequent senate or full councel of the said burgh, statutes, ordinances, and constitutions of and concerning our said burgh of Perth, and inhabitants thereof, present and to come, of whatsoever estate and condition they be of; and that the said statutes, ordinances, and constitutions, shall be lawful and valuable to be put in execution freely and quietly by themselves, without condition, constraint, or councel, of any other judge or judges, ecclesiastical or civil, against their own burgesses, citizens, and inhabitants of our said burgh of Perth, present and to come, infringers, controveners, and transgressors of the said statutes, ordinances, and constitutions, with power to them to cite, conveen, prosecute, fine, amerciate, and punish, as well in the bailie as guild court, as in other courts whatsoever of our said burgh of Perth, and to uplift the fines, penalties, and amerciaments, the same to apply and convert to the helping, mending, reparation, and upholding of our said burgh of Perth, the foresaid bridge, and other publick and common works of the same. Whilk statutes, ordinances, constitu-

Digitized by Google

tions, and consuetudes, made and already ordained, or to be made hereafter, by the said provost, bailies, counsellors, and dean of guild of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors present and to come, as said is, for the commodity and utility of our said burgh of Perth, and the said bridge of Tay, as is above exprest: We, with advice, counsel, and consent foresaid, ratifies and approves, and for us and our successors, by the tenor of this our present charter, confirms perpetually, in all and sundrie points, conditions, clauses, and articles thereof, we will, and for us and our successors we declare and discern, that the same shall be holden and esteemed for laws, and shall have the strength, power, and authority of laws, in all time coming perpetually.

And sicklike we, with advice, council, and consent foresaid, for us and successors, by the tenor of this our present charter, gives, grants, and perpetually confirms to the community, citizens, burgesses, and guild-brethren of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors perpetually, free and full authority, licence, and special power; that whereso-ever, whensoever, and how oft soever, they or any of them shall happen to find any forestallers within our said burgh of Perth and liberties thereof, or within our sheriffdom of Perth, bounds, liberties, and jurisdiction thereof, that they, or any of them by themselves, take and arreast the said forestallers, and their goods whatsoever, and the same forestalled goods to confiscate, make escheat thereof, and to carry away the same freely, without licence or authority of any judge, or judges, or of any of our or successors officers and serjeants, or of any other whatsoever; and because goods so forestalled, and kept up contrary to the laws, loyal inhibitions, edicts, and consuetudes of this our native kingdom, the same should be confiscate and escheat, and should appertain to us and our successors by the right of the crown. And sicklike, the goods forestalled, and the amerciaments of the forestallers of our said burgh of Perth, should by our law be confiscate, and should pertain to us and our succes-

sors,

Digitized by Google

sors, in manner as escheat; we therefore, with advice, council, and consent foresaid, have given and granted, and for us and successors perpetually confirmed. Likeas, by the tenor of this our present charter, we give and grant, and for us and our successors perpetually confirms, to the said citizens, burgesses, community, and guild-brether of the said burgh of Perth, and their successors, in pure and perpetual alms, perpetually to the reparation and upholding the said bridge of our said burgh of Perth, not only the said confiscations, escheats, fines, amerciaments, and whatsoever confiscate goods, escheated and taken already, or that shall be escheated, confiscated, or taken at any time hereafter, by the said community, burgesses, guild-brether, bailies, and sheriffs of our said burgh of Perth, or by any of them, with the amerciaments, fines, and escheats of all forestallers, taken and arreasted by the said community, sheriff, citizens, burgesses, and guild-brether, of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, or any of them, how oft soever, whensoever, and wheresoever, the said forestallers shall be convict, or condemned before whatsoever judge or judges ecclesiastical, capital, secular, criminal, or civil, within our sheriffdom of Perth, or without the same, in whatsoever part of our kingdom.

But sicklyke, all amerciaments and escheats, that shall happen to be, or that in right should be at any time hereafter by virtue of this our present charter and infeftment, or any head, article, or clause thereof, of whatsoever transgressions and attempts against the tenor thereof, or any of the charters above written, or any of the premisses, or for the violations, transgressions, or contraventions foresaid, statutes, ordinances, constitutions, consuetudes, or any of them, commanding and charging all and sundry our and our successors, their lieges, subjects, chamberlains, chief quesitor, or justice-general, sheriffs, stewards, and their deputies, crowners and others, judges, magistrates, and other officers whatsoever, present and to come: That they, and

Digitized by Google

ilk one of them, how oft they shall be required thereto, shall assist, help, and fortify, protect, hold hand to, and defend our said provost, bailies, sheriffs of our said burgh, their deputes, guilds, deans of guilds, inhabitants, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors for the time, in all, and by all things, and to the expeding, exercing, prosecuting, lifting, importing and defending the premisses, and shall promptly give and assist them with their council and pains, and shall answer, prepare, and intend anent the expeding and execution of the premisses; all the foresaids donations, liberties, privileges, and others above mentioned in this our present charter.

And seeing the bridge of Earn, which, by the liberality and charity of the churchmen and their benefices for the time, was built and upholden until the time of the reformation of religion in our kingdom, and now the same with the casawayes, streets, and ways thereof at both the ends, by reason of the strength and inundation of the water, is tending to ruin, and a great part thereof ruinous in the stone-pillars thereof, being loosed and shaken, and ane great part of the work of the fund consumed in all the parts thereof, are now like to slip and fall down; and the said bridge being now in that state and condition, that if the same be not timeously mended and repaired, it will altogether fall and perish, to the great hurt, prejudice, and skaith of the whole common wealth, and will be no little impediment and hindrance to us, in all the services, offices, and following of the wars to be performed to us by our subjects chiefly, seeing the said bridge of Earn is the second, and only next ready way and passage to our said bridge of Perth on the said water of Tay, for all our subjects to the north part and places of our kingdom, and for our subjects in the Highlands, and the laigh country also. And moreover, because the said bridge of Earn is and should be esteemed ane necessar part and pendicle of our said burgh of Perth, and their said bridge of Tay; and for that cause, the inhabitants of our

Digitized by Google

our said burgh of Perth for the time should be; likeas they are most willing, careful, and solicitous for the building and repairing of the said bridge of Earn, and for upholding and maintaining the same, in the ways, casaways, and streets thereof; and seeing the same cannot be done and prepaired, and amended in every defective part thereof, without great charge, expence, and sums of money, or ane constant and perpetual custom and tribute to be uptaken for that effect.

We therefore, with advice, counsel, and consent foresaid, have given and granted, and for us and our successors perpetually confirmed: Likeas, by the tenor of this our present charter, we give and grant, and for us and our successors perpetually confirms to our said burgh of Perth, provost, bailies, counsellors, burgesses, citizens, and inhabitants thereof, and their successors perpetually, as being a necessar part and pendicle of our said burgh of Perth and bridge thereof, The foresaid bridge of Earn, ways, streets, and casaways, with the pertinents and commodities thereof, and all things pertaining to the meading, reparation, and upholding of the same.

And sicklyke, for the better and more commodious mending, reparation, and upholding of the said bridge, we have ordained the perpetual customs, tributes, and duties following, to be uplifted; to wit, two pennies to be uplifted for ilk horseman, for every time of his passing alongs the said bridge; one penny to be paid for every footman, for ilk time of his passing alongs the said bridge; two pennies for every beast carrying one load or sack of victual; one penny to be paid for every beast carrying a load of salt, fish, fowls, or other things of that kind; one penny to be paid for every horse or other beast; one penny to be paid for every ox, or cow, and any of that kind; one penny for every four sheep; four pennies for every load of merchandize; one penny to be paid for every sack, and all other things equal, and like tributes and customs to be paid according to the use and custom and practice in time bygone

Digitized by Google

used at the said bridge of Earn: Commanding and charging all and sundry our and our successors lieges and subjects, that they and every one of them passing along the said bridge of Earn, that they prepare and pay at every time to our said provost, bailies, counsellors, and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, their collectors, delegates, and deputes; the foresaid custom, tributes, and pennies designed and destined to the mending, repairing, and upholding the said bridge of Earn, streets, casaways, and ports thereof; and that no man presume, nor take upon hand, to impede, hinder, or stop them in their business, directly or indirectly.

And sicklyke we, with advice, council, and consent foresaid, for us and our successors, by the tenor of this our present charter, exeems and liberates perpetually our said provost, bailies, sheriffs, counsellors, burgesses, community, and inhabitants of our said burgh of Perth, and liberty of the same, and their successors, from all inquests and assizes, and of all constraint or action, to be moved against them, for causing them to be upon any inquisition or assize, neither shall they be cited, required, or constrained for that effect, where the crimes are not perpetrated, acted, or committed within our said burgh of Perth, or within a mile next adjacent thereto.

And sicklike, exeems them from all travelling forth of our said burgh of Perth and liberties thereof for serving, assisting, or taking part with, or to any whatsoever; and that they shall not be partakers with them in using, expeding, or prosecuting whatsoever delegation or commission obtained already, or to be obtained, directed already, or to be directed whatsoever way in time coming. And of all expeditions, armies, conventions, journeys to the wars, and others where we ourselves and our successors shall not be present in our own persons allenarly, and all our subjects and people, or the body of our kingdom, as well to burgh as land, being universally to that effect cited, premonished,

and

Digitized by Google

required by public proclamation and edict upon occasion, and for present business; and generally all and sundry other things to exerce, frequent, use, and do sicklike, and as freely in all respects, with all other liberties, privileges, and immunities whatsoever, as our said burgh at any time before, or any other free royal burgh within our kingdom used or uses at any time bygone; reserving nevertheless to us and our successors, the foresaid great customs of our said burgh of Perth, to be holden all and haill our said burgh of Perth, common walls, fousies, ports, ways, streets, roads, casaways, passages, markets, fairs, waters, stanks, bridges, inches, territories, milns, miln-lands, astricted multures, and others serving thereto, sequels, miln-leads, water-clouses; the foresaid common muir, lands, tenements, annualrents, towers, fishings, and whatsoever pertains thereto, yearly profits, burgage-farms, pynorie, port, station, or gate-dighting; the water of Tay, timber-markets, and liberties thereof from Drumley, and within the same; the foresaid guild, the foresaid offices of crownership and sheriffship, and others above written, and all and sundrie privileges and immunities, possessions, liberties presently possessed by our said burgh of Perth and inhabitants thereof, or that by our said burgh and their predecessors has been possessed at any time bygone, confiscations, escheats, fines, amerciaments, small customs, anchorage and portage money, fines of court, commodities, casualties, and others whatsoever, with muirs, marishes, meadows, grazings, pasturages, burrow-courts, guild-courts, sheriff-courts, courts of the fairs and markets, and other courts of our said burgh of Perth whatsoever; together with coals, coal-heughs, and with all and sundrie other liberties and commodities, with righteous pertinents whatsoever belonging, or that may justly belong and pertain any manner of way to our said burgh of Perth, or to the premisses, or to any part of the same, at any time hereafter, as well within our said burgh of Perth as without the same, as well under the earth as above the

Digitized by Google

same, far and near, by the said provosts, bailies, counsellors, guild-brether, burgesses, citizens, inhabitants, and whole community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, heritably, of us and our successors, in free burgage and few-farm perpetually in all the right marches and old divisions thereof, as the same lyes in length and breadth in houses, biggings, plains, muirs, marches, old ways, waters, stanks, burns, meadows, grazings, pasturages, woods, milns, fishings, and whatsoever pertains thereto, coals, coalheughs, with courts of plea, herezhalds *, blood-weits †, markets, fines, amerciaments, of the said courts, heading, hanging, drowning, outfangthief ‡, infangthief ||, common pasturage, free ingress and egress, and with all and sundrie other liberties and commodities, profits, easements, righteous pertinents thereof whatsoever, as well named as not named, as well under the earth as above, far and near, pertaining to our said burgh of Perth, and others respective particularly above written, with their pertinents, or that may justly appertain and belong to the same any manner of way in time coming, freely, quietly, fully, entirely, honourably, well, and in peace, without any revocation, contradiction, impediment, or obstacle whatsoever. Paying yearly thereout of, by the said provost, bailies, councillors, and community of the said burgh of Perth, and their successors, to us and our successors, the foresaid sum of eighty pounds Sterling money, at the feasts of Whitsunday, and Martinmas in winter, by equal portions, allenarly for all other service, consuetude, or demand; reserving always to us and our successors the foresaid great customs of the said burgh

* Free gifts by a tenant to the landlord, due at the tenant's death, or when his lord went to war.

† Unlawful injury, such as blood.

‡ Taken with the goods without the jurisdiction.

|| Taken within the jurisdiction.

Digitized by Google

burgh of Perth, as said is; of the whilk sum of eighty pounds Sterling money, for the said burgage-ferms, we, with advice, counsel, and consent foresaid, now, as of before, have given, granted, and disponed, and for us and our successors perpetually confirmed, and by the tenour of this our present charter, gives, grants, and dispones, and for us and our successors perpetually confirms to our said hospital and poor of our said burgh of Perth, in pure and perpetual alms perpetually, the foresaid sum of sixty-nine pounds, eight shillings, and eightpence Sterling money, granted and disponed to them, and before any acts of annexation, as said is, by our said most renowned predecessors, by parts and portions, in pure and perpetual alms, perpetually to the said abbots, priors, and convents of St Andrew's, Scoon, Cambuskeneth, Charter-house and friars foresaid, as said is above mentioned

And sicklyke, we give, grant, and dispone, and for us and our successors, perpetually confirms to the said provost, bailies, and community of our burgh of Perth, and their successors, for upholding the said bridge of Tay, in pure and perpetual alms perpetually, the foresaid residue in Sterling money, forth of the said burgage-ferms of eighty pounds Sterling money, whilk residue was formerly disponed and given long before any act of annexation, as said is, by our most renowned predecessors, to the saids aldermen and community of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, in Sterling money, for upholding the said bridge of Tay, in pure and perpetual alms perpetually; and therefore we also will and grant, and for us and our successors ordain, command, and charge, the auditors of our exchequer, present and to come, that they receive and admit yearly, and in all time coming, the yearly counts to be made by the bailies of our said burgh of Perth, present and to come, and by others in their names, of the said burgage-ferms of our said burgh of Perth, extending to the sum of eighty pounds Sterling money, as said is; and that they exoner

honer and liberate them of the same; and that they subscribe to their said accounts, and the Æque concerning the same; and that they registrate the foresaid accounts, exoneration and liberation of the same, in the books and rolls of the said exchequer, by allocation and approbation to them of the sum of sixty-nine pounds, eight shillings, and eightpence Sterling, foresaid, as if the same was paid by them to the said hospital and poor, forth of the said burgage-ferms, disponed and paid formerly by parts and portions to the said abbots, priors, convents of St Andrew's, Scoon, Cambuskeneth, Charter-house, and friars foresaid respective, as said is.

And sicklike, by approbation and allocation, to the said bailies of our said burgh of Perth, and their successors, the foresaid residue of the said burgage-ferms, as being paid by themselves to the sustentation of the said bridge of Tay, as said is, and that they admit and approve their said accounts, and the sum Æque of the same, as before this time, now in diverse years last past.

Moreover we, with advice, counsel, and consent foresaid, for us and our successors foresaid, by the tenour of this our present charter, creates and incorporates, and unites the said burgh of Perth, in a free, regal, and royal burgh, in ane liberty and freeholding, lands, water-milns, fishings, and pertinents of fishings, inches, bridges, muirs, offices, liberties, and privileges, and others above written; and we will and grant, that the taking of one only sasine at the tolbooth of our said burgh of Perth, shall stand and be sufficient for our said burgh of Perth, and the haill premisses, notwithstanding that the same lies contiguous together, and that the same lies in diverse parts and places; anent the which we, for us and our successors, have dispensed, and by the tenour of this our present charter, dispenses therewith perpetually.

Commanding and charging our Lords of Council and Session, that they give, grant, and direct their edicts, letters

Digitized by Google

ters, and proclamations upon thir things, and the premisses, in due and competent form, and sicklike letters of horning on ane simple charge of ten days only, against rebels, refractors, and refusers to observe the premisses.

In testimony whereof, we have commanded to put our great seal to this our present charter, before thir witnesses, our foresaid cousins and counsellors, John, Marquis of Hamilton, Earl of Arran, and Lord Aven; John, Earl of Montrose; Lord Graham, our chancellor; George, Earl of Marshall; Lord Keith, marshall of our kingdom; our well-beloved familiar councillors, Sir James Elphingston of Barntoun, Knight, our secretary; Sir Richard Cockburn younger of Clerkington, Knight, keeper of our privy seal; Mr John Skene, clerk of our rolls, register, and councel; Sir John Cockburn of Ormiston, Knight, our justice-clerk; and Mr William Scott of Grangemurie, director of our chancellary.

At Holyroodhouse, the 15th of November 1600,
and of our reign the 34th year.

This is the true and authentic copy of the charter of confirmation of the haill liberties and privileges of the burgh of Perth. Translated into English, word by word, forth of the principal Latin charter, by me John Davidson, Notar Publick. The truth whereof is witnessed by my following subscription 1651.

JOHNNE DAVIDSONE.

NUM-

Digitized by Google

NUMBER II.

DECREET

OBTAINED BY THE BURGH OF PERTH, AGAINST THE BURGH OF DUNDEE,

Concerning the Liberties and Privileges of the Water of Tay, and Priority of Place.

At Edinburgh, the penult day of December, the year of God one thousand six hundred and twa years, the right excellent and mighty prince King James the Sixt, King of Scotland, the Lords of Council and Session underwritten, they are to say, John, Earl of Montrose; Lord Grahame, great chancellor of Scotland; Alexander Lord Tyrie, president of the colledge; Alexander Lord Elphingston; Mark Lord Newbottle; William Comendator of Tongueland; John Comendator of Holyroodhouse; Edward Comendator of Kinloss; Peter, Bishop of Dunkeld; Sir James Elphingston of Barnstone, Knight, secretor of our Sovereign Lord; Sir Richard Cockburn younger of Clerkington, Knight, lord privy seal; Sir John Cockburn of Ormiston, Knight, Justice-clerk; Sir David Lindsay of Edgall, Knight; Mr John Skene, Clerk of Register; Andrew Weems of Markarne; Mr Thomas Hamilton of Monkland, his Highness' Advocate;

Digitized by Google

Advocate; Mr James Prestoun of Seaton Barnes, his Highness' collector-general; Archibald Douglas of Whitingame; Walter Prior of Blantyre; Mr David Magill of Cranstone Roddall; and Sir Robert Melvill of Broomlyland, Knight. In the action and cause pursued at the instance of Sir James Scrimgeour of Dudop, Knight, provost of the burgh of Dundee, William Duncan, William Man, John Finlesone, and John Shouane, bailies thereof for the time, and of the haill burgesses, community, and inhabitants of the samen, against Alexander Blair, appeirand of Balthyock, provost of the burgh of Perth for the time; Andrew Rae, Constantine Malice, Oliver Young, and Thomas Johnston, bailies thereof also, for themselves, and representing likewise the haill community of the said burgh, touching the productione before the said Lords, and reductione of the charter-tittle granted to the said burgh of Perth by the said illustrious Prince, our Sovereign Lord, ratifying, approving, and confirming certain freedoms, liberties, and privileges, granted to their predecessors by our sovereign lord's most noble progenitors, with the new gift and infeftment thereof, to be seen and considered by the said Lords, and to have seen and heard the samen retracted, rescinded, and reduced for diverse reasons and causes at length specified in the said summons and letters, given under our said Sovereign Lord his signet, the twenty-fifth day of April, anno one thousand six hundred and ane years.

Whilk matter and action therein contained being sundrie times called, reasoned, and disputed, in presence of our said Sovereign Lord, to the end his Majestie, with the advice of the saids Lords of Council and Session, thought it most meet and expedient for ane perpetual concord to stand betwixt the said burrows of Perth and Dundee, and to take away the grudges and offence now standing, or that hereafter might arise upon the liberties, freedoms, and privileges granted to either of the said burrows; and our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Highness' Council and Session, finds

Digitized by Google

finds both the parties, after long plea, great contention, and large expences, well disposed to obey counsell and direction; that all questions, controversies, and debates, that either of the saids burrows has, or standing betwixt them, should be submitted and referred to the decision, sentence, and decreet of our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council.

It was appointed and ordained the said burrows of Perth and Dundee on either side should direct their special procurators, factors, and commissioners, instructed with sufficient mandates, to refer and submit to our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session, all questions, controversies, and debates, that either of the saids parties and community might move against others, or might arise or be moved against them for any cause preceeding, or that may follow hereafter, by reason of the freedoms and liberties given to either of the saids burrows, and all other questions and debates, which either of them pleased to give in, their claims subscribed by the saids commissioners for either partie.

According to the whilk appointment and deliverance, compeired upon the twenty-ninth day of the said month of December, one thousand six hundred and twa years instant, in presence of our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session foresaids, Patrick Blair, James Adamsone, and Andrew Conqueror, commissioners, conjunctly, for the said burgh of Perth, and produced their said commission, authentickly sealed with the common seal of the said burgh, and subscribed by the provost, bailies, council, and deacons of crafts, representing the haill community thereof, of the date the twenty-ane day of December instant.

And likewise compeired Sir James Scrimgeour of Dudhop, Knight, provost of the said burgh of Dundee, for himself, and John Finleyson, Patrick Lyone, Robert Fledger, and Mr Alexander Wedderburn, commissioners, conjunctly, for

Digitized by Google

for the said burgh of Dundee, and produced their commission, authentickly sealed with the common seal of the said burgh, and subscryved by the provost, bailies, council, community, and deacons of crafts representing, of the date the twenty-ane day of December instant.

By the whilk commissions produced on the one and other parts, our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session, finds and declares the said commissioners for either partie to be well and lawfully authorised, and to have full power to submitt the saids questions, in manner underwritten. And according to either of the saids commissions, to the said commissioners respective to either partie, referred and submitted to our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Council and Session foresaids, conjunctly, all the saids matters, questions, causes, and debates, generally mentioned in their saids commissions, and specially declared by their claims, whilk either party respective produced in judgement, submitted in the hands of the said commissioners, after the form and tenour of their saids commission, given unto them respective thereanent, of the whilk claim produced by the saids commissioners for the burgh of Perth, the tenour follows:

"Unto your Majesty and Lordships, humbly means and shows. The provost, bailies, council, and community of the burgh of Perth. That where your Majestie and Highness' most noble progenitors and predecessors, of most worthy memorie, in consideration of the great antiquity, good and pleasant situation of the said burgh of Perth, being of old the residence of your Highness' progenitors, with their princes, bairns, and familys, and where their Parliaments, public conventions, general counsells, and assemblies of the States of this realm, were holden and resorted, and thereby making great account of the said burgh of Perth, has erected and doted the said burgh with many notable, rare, and singular privileges, liberties, and commodities, in most ample form, in such sort, that the privileges granted

granted to other burghs make relation thereto for the most part, and specially for the maintenance of the said burgh, increase of police, traffick, and negotiation therein; has of old, by most antient charters, infeftments, and gifts, given, granted, and confirmed to the said burgh of Perth, burgesses thereof, and their successors, the freedom, privileges, and liberty of the water of Tay, and of all buying and selling in all parts within the same, frae Drumly, and beneath, with express prohibitions, that no ship coming within the water of Tay, within Drumly, with merchandize, should be loised or break bulk, while the same come to the bridge of the said burgh, under the pains of the tinsel of the saids goods, except the samen be loaded with goods of the saids inhabitants of the said burgh of Dundee, or in the time of the fairs of Dundee.

"Likeas your Majestie continuing in the like good will towards the said burgh of Perth, and making the like accompt thereof, as your Majestie's noble predecessors did oft before, has, by your Highness' new and last charter of confirmation and new infeftment, of the date the fifteenth day of November, the year of God one thousand and six hundredth years, not only ratified and confirmed the former charters, ancient infeftments, and gifts, and haill points, articles, liberties, and privileges therein contained; and, among the rest, the saids liberties, freedoms, and privileges of the water of Tay, and of buying and selling in all parts within the same, frae Drumly and beneath, with the express prohibition foresaid, but has of new given, granted, and confirmed to the said burgh of Perth, burgesses, and inhabitants thereof, and their successors, the saids freedoms, liberties, and privileges of the said water of Tay, in all parts of the samen, frae Drumly and beneath, with ane particular explication and declaration of the specialls and particulars, wherein the same liberty, freedom, and privilege of the water of Tay, consists for the most part, with ane special exemption frae such things as may hurt or impair,

Digitized by Google

pair the samen: And the said freedom, liberty, and privilege of the said water of Tay, as the said ancient infeftments of the said freedom, liberty, and privilege of the said water of Tay, whilk is only presently controverted and in question, and your Highness new and of late charter and new infeftment of the date foresaid, produced herewith, and repeated as a part of this claim, in themselves respective more fully purports, by virtue of the whilks the burgesses of the burgh of Perth, and their predecessors, are, and has been in possession of the saids liberties and freedoms, and of the freedom, liberty, and privilege of the water of Tay; nevertheless the saids provost, bailies, council, and community of the said burgh of Dundee, on their pretended manner, not only since the granting of the said ancient infeftments to the said burgh of Perth, burgesses and inhabitants thereof, but also since the purchasing of the said late new confirmation and infeftment of the date foresaid, to the manifest hurt and prejudice of the samen, and of the saids privileges and liberties granted to the said burgh of Perth of before, and of the said liberty, freedom, and privilege of the water of Tay, and of the said prohibition and exemption, has most wrongously, against their duties, purchast frae your Highness ane posterior infeftment to themselves, containing therein the liberty of ane part of the said water of Tay, disponed to the said burgh of Perth, burgesses and inhabitants thereof as said is, long of before.

Videlicet, frae the burne-mouth of Invergowrie at the west, the Gall of Barrie at the east, on the north side of the water of Tay, and frae the place where the Abbay of Balmirinoch was situated at the west, to the sands called Drumly Sands at the east, on the south side of the said water of Tay, with declaration and enumeration of certain particular parts and effects of the said liberty, within the saids bounds, and specially with power of loising and loading, and with power to stop others frae loising and loading, and

Digitized by Google

with power to uplift and receive all petty customs, anchorage, shore-silver, and other duties within the said bounds, namely, to uplift twelve pennies of ilk ton of tun-silver. Whilks particulars are in verie deed and effect, the verie libertie of the water of Tay, and effects thereof, and wherein the same libertie consists, tending thereby not only to make the saids burgesses and inhabitants of the said burgh of Perth, and our successors, thrallit and subject to ane perpetual servitude, whereof we are free, and frae the whilk we are specially exeemed by our said prior infeftment, preceding the said posterior infeftment granted to the said town of Dundee, but also by the samen servitudes and posterior infeftment, to take frae us the said freedom, liberty, and privilege of the said water of Tay, disponed to us of old, and by your Highness duly confirmed and disponed to us of new as said is, before the purchasing of the posterior infeftment granted to the said town of Dundee; albeit in verie deed we being *priores titulo et potiores jure*, no such posterior infeftment could have been lawfully granted to our prejudice, and to the prejudice of the said prior infeftment, having our right acquired long of before, clad with possession as said is, so that the said pretended posterior, without question, etiam in foro contradictorio, upon the ground of the said anterior and prior right granted of before would be reduced and refracted.

Therefore, beseeks your Majestie and Lordships, seeing all debateable matters betwixt us and the said town of Dundee are submitted amicablie, and that the principal occasion of the controversie that has risen amongst us, for the most part has proceeded upon the purchasing by the said town of Dundee, and their pretended posterior infeftment, that therefore it would please your Majestie and Lordships, by your sentence to find and declare, that we and our successors has, and shall have in all time coming, full and undoubted right to the hail freedoms, liberties, and privileges, as well contained in the said ancient infeftments, as in our said

Digitized by Google

said new particular confirmation and infeftment of the particular date foresaid, with the benefit and commodity of the said prohibitions and exemptions specified therein, and namely, that we have the undoubted right of the said freedom, libertie, and privilege of the said water of Tay, with the prohibition and exemption, foresaid benefit and commoditie thereof, and that our new infeftments, both new and old, shall stand in all time coming valid and sufficient titles to us and our successors, to bruik and joyce the hail liberties and privileges therein contained, and namely, the liberty, freedom, and privilege of the said water of Tay, with the effects thereof, with the said prohibition and exemption foresaid, benefites and commodities thereof; and therefore, in respect thereof, your Majestie and Lordships would find and decern, by your decreet, the said pretended posterior infeftment purchased by the said town of Dundee, to be reduced, retracted, rescinded, cassed, annulled, decerned, and declared to have been frae the beginning, to be now and all time coming, null and of none avail, force, nor effect, with all that has followed, or that may follow thereupon, at the least so far as we or our successors may any ways be impaired or prejudged in the bruiking of the said privileges, freedoms, and liberties, and specially of the said freedom, libertie, and privilege of the said water of Tay, with the prohibition and exemption foresaid, benefit and commoditie thereof, or our said old or new infeftments hurt or prejudized in any part or point, in respect that the same was acquired long of before, and that the inhabitants of the said town of Dundee, and their successors, shall desist and cease in all time coming frae all troubling and molesting of us thereanent, and frae all molesting, troubling, or stopping of us, or any others our or their goods or gear resorting to us frae the said town of Dundee, in passing or repassing frae us to the same. According to justice, sic subscribitur, Patricius Blair, Jacobus Adamson, Andreas Conqueror, as the said claim, which is subscribed with their hands, in itself purports.

Digitized by Google

For instructing of the whilk claim, the said commissioners produced also ane charter of confirmation under the great seal, made and granted by umquhile David, of worthy memorie, to the said burgesses and inhabitants of the said burgh of Perth, ratifying and confirming certain charters whereanto the samen makes relation, made before umquhile William and Robert, Kings of Scotland, of worthy memorie, upon the privileges and liberties granted to them and their said burgh, at length exprest in their said confirmation, as the same, dated at Perth the tenth day of April, and of the said King David his reign the thirtie-sixth year, in itself at length purports, with ane other charter made by Robert King of Scotland, ratifying and confirming ane charter made of before to the said burgesses, and in favour of their said burgh, by King Robert, containing certain privileges granted to them, and whilk letter is insert in the said confirmation, as the same confirmation whilk is under the great seal, at Edinburgh, the sixth day of and of his Highness's reign the tenth year, at mair length bears; together also with ane decreet and sentence given by the King's Majesty and Lords of secret council, at Holyroodhouse, the twenty-third day of anno one thousand five hundred four score and sixteen years, proceeding upon letters raised at the instance of the provest, baylzies, council, and community of the burgh of Perth, against the provost, baylzies, council, and community of the burgh of Dundee, making relation in the narrative of the said decreet to ane letter and gift under his Highness's privy-seal; by the whilk, his Highness has disponed to the provost, baylzies, council, and community of the burgh of Dundee, the loist and exaction followiug privilege and freedom thereof, to be uplifted and received by them for the space of five years immediately following the date of the said gift, and that for the reparation of their pier, bulwark, shore, haven of Dundee; that is to say, twa shilling off ilk tun of goods entring within the said haven and port of Dundee at their entry thereat,

twa

Digitized by Google

twa shilling for ilk tun at their o'passing thereat, of merchant friends, unfriends, and strangers, and sicklyke of every tu fraught, twelve pennies at the entry, and alsmickle at the outpassing of the ships coming frae Norroway and other parts, loadned with timber, of ilk hundred jests one, of ilk hundred raucher one, of ilk hundred corbells, wainscote deals one, and sicklyke of ilk sort of timber coming into the said haven and port, or the avails and prices thereof, of ilk chalder of victual that shall be sold in the said port and haven, of the said merchants sixteen pennies, and for the skipper and master eight pennies, and of all other goods which uses to be disponed by chalders. Whilk gift the said provost, baylzies, council, and community of the said burgh of Perth, desired his Majesty and Lords of secret council by their decreet declared to have been wrongously and will purchased, and therefore declared at least suspended, and to have no force against the burgh of Perth in time coming, for the reasons and causes mentioned in the said letters raised at their instance for that effect; by the whilk decreet, his Majesty and Lords of secret council ordained therefore the said privilege granted to the said bigging and reparations of the said pier, bulwark, shore, and haven of Dundee, to stand and to have full force and execution conform and during the space foresaid contained in the said letters made to the inhabitants of Dundee upon the same, and no further toist nor privilege of uptaking of toist or exaction of goods pertaining to the inhabitants of the said burgh of Perth, to be granted, or gift or letters to be past for that effect, at any time after the expiring of this present privilege, without their own consents had thereto; and that some person be appointed and have commission of the said provost, bayzies, council, and community of the burgh of Perth, to wait, remain, and see the said toist and exaction collected, and how the same is bestowed by the said provost, baylzies, and council of Dundee, whereof also they shall have an accompt to the Lords Auditors of the Exche-

Digitized by Google

quer, and their order, to endure and have full power in manner aforesaid, without prejudice of either of said parties, liberties, or privileges, or any action intended or to be intended thereupon, to be decided before the judge competent thereto, as accords of the law; as the said decreet of the date foresaid, under the sign and subscription manual of John Andrew, clerk-depute of the secret council, at mair length proports. As also the said commissioners produced the foresaid new charter, made and granted by our Sovereign Lord who now is, to the said inhabitants and burgesses of Perth, ratifying and confirming the foresaid charter, and diverse other evidents made and granted to them of their said liberties and privileges, containing also therein ane new disposition thereof, and diverse other heads and articles therein mentioned, as the same whilk is of the date, the fifteenth day of November, anno one thousand and six hundred years, at length proports.

And follows sicklyke the tenor of the clame produced by the commissioners of the said burgh of Dundee, to witt, the clame of the burgh of Dundee, provost, baylzies, council, community, and inhabitants of the same, to our Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session, judges, arbitrators, equally chosen by submission betwixt the said parties; in the first, the said burgh of Dundee desires the late pretended infeftment, and all other infeftments whatsoever granted to the said burgh of Perth, in that part thereof disponing to them the water of Tay, and hail libertie and privilege thereof, frae Drumlay and within, to be reduced, decerned, and declared, that the hail privilege of the water of Tay concerning the sheriffdom of Forfar appertains to the said burgh of Dundee, notwithstanding the said pretended infeftment, because King Robert Bruce gave commission to the chancellor and chamberlain of this realm for the time, to recognosse the liberties and privileges of the said burgh of Dundee, bruiked in the days of King Alexander and his predecessors, kings of Scotland, accord-

ing

Digitized by Google

ing to the whilk commission the said matter was put to the tryal and knowledge of ane choise of the most honourable barrons and burgesses within this realm, who found, that the said burgh of Dundee and burgesses thereof in the days of the said King Alexander and his predecessors, had the like libertie to buy and sell by watter and land, as any burgh within Scotland had, to witt, to markets, fairs, and freeports, with the passage to and frae the same, with ships loising and loadning thereof, with ane merchant-guild, and all other privileges granted to any other burgh of before, after the whilk recognition the said King Robert gave and granted of new to the said burgh of Dundee, the hail liberties and privileges foresaids, whilk they bruiked in the days of King William, and King Alexander his predecessor, kings of Scotland, with ane prohibition, that no stranger merchant should buy any merchandize coming towards the said burgh by water or land till they came to Dundee, and sell their merchandize there. Thir evidents are confirmed by King James the Fourth, the twenty-fourth year of his reign, whilk confirmation contains ane new gift of the privilege foresaid, and of the pettie customs, anchorage, haven-silver, and other duties whereof the burgh of Dundee was in possession of before, by virtue whereof the burgh of Dundee has been in possession of the said privileges, and especially of their free-port, of loising and loadning of ships in the said water of Tay in all parts thereof forenent said sherriffdom of Forfar.

And albeit, that the said burgh of Perth would alledge that the said umquhile King Robert the Bruce, before his infeftment granted to the said burgh of Dundee, gave to them the hail liberties and privileges of the water of Tay, Cum libertate emendi et vendendi quælibet mercimoniorum genera, in quibuscunque locis infra Vicecomitatum *de Perth*, et precipue in aqua de Taya et Drumlay et infra. And that his infeftment contains ane prohibition, that no ship coming within Drumlay shall break bulk till she come to

Digitized by Google

the bridge of Perth, yet this infeftment can no ways hurt or prejudise the town of Dundee in their liberties and privileges foresaid, for the reasons following: *First*, Because there is no such original infeftment to be shewn. *Secondly*, If there were any such infeftment, it must be esteemed posterior to the burgh of Dundee's infeftment, which proceeds upon ane trial and cognition taken, that the said burgh bruiked the liberties and privileges foresaid in the days of King William, King Alexander, and others, the said King Robert his predecessors; whereas, the said infeftment granted to the said burgh of Perth is original, without any tryal or cognition proceeding. *Thirdly*, If the burgh of Perth's infeftments were to be chosen, and might be esteemed prior, yet the liberty thereof cannot be extended further than the bounds of the sherriffdom of Perth; and these words, "et precipue in aqua de Taya," &c. is only a specification of the said generality, to witt, of the water of Tay forenent the sheriffdom of Perth; and further, their said pretended infeftment gives them not the haill power and jurisdiction of the water of Tay, but only power to buy and sell therein within the sheriffdom of Perth; and further, that clause of their infeftment not to break bulk, et cet. is improfitable, because it is impossible that any ship of forty tuns may come to the bridge of Tay except she be lighted. *Fourthly*, By ane decreet given by the Duke of Albany and the council of Scotland, betwixt the said burghs, in foro contradictorio, it is declared, That the burgesses of Dundee has good right to buy any ship coming by adventure within the water of Tay, and cause them break bulk at the port of Dundee. *Secondly*, The said burgh of Dundee desires it to be found and declared, that they had good and undoubted right to the tunn-silver of ilk tunn of goods entring by ships in the said water of Tay, or passing forth thereof, because our said Sovereign Lord, by his letters of gift, has granted libertie to the said burgh of Dundee, to uplift and uptake of ilk tunn of the said goods, on impost

of

of twelve pennies, whereof eight pennies is paid by the owner of the goods, and four pennies by the owner of the ship, and that for placing meiths and tunnes in the water-mouth, to design the dangers, and for upholding of the same perpetually. Whilk gift must stand, *first*, In respect of the work whilk is so necessary. *Secondly*, In respect of the great profit redounding thereby, not only to the countrymen, but also to strangers. *Thirdly*, Because our said Sovereign Lord might have granted the like privilege to any stranger upon ane necessary cause. And, *lastly*, Because that so great a work cannot be sustained upon less duties, whilk is almost wholly paid by the inhabitants of the said burgh of Dundee, and Perth will not pay the twelfth part thereof. *Thirdly*, The said burgh of Dundee desires it to be found and declared, that they have good right to their pettie customs, anchorage, shore-silver, and haven-silver, whilk is the exaction uplifted of every ship and bark, for the reparation of the shore and bulwork, by reason of their old infeftment, and that they claim no more of Perth nor the freemen of other burghs pays to them, and at other free ports, viz. at Leith, and as the inhabitants of Dundee are willing to pay at Perth. And, *last*, the said burgh of Dundee, desires to have the first place, and to be preferred to the burgh of Perth, in all parliaments, assemblies, councils, and conventions: *First*, Because it shall be proven by evidents, that the burgh of Dundee is more ancient, and by ancient record of chronicles, whilk varifies Dundee to be hundreds of years before the reign of King William, who is allowed to be the foundator of the burgh of Perth. *Secondly*, Because Dundee bears the double of the charges of Perth in the subsidies of the realm; in the whilk respect, Edinburgh is preferred to the rest of the burgh. *Thirdly*, Dundee is more civillie governed than Perth, in respect the haill magistrates of Dundee are of the merchant state, except two of the council for the crafts, and the equal half of the council of Perth are craftsmen.

Digitized by Google

men. And, as to the pretended decreet alledged, given by the commissioners of burghs, preferring Perth to Dundee, the same was given within the burgh of Perth, and was purchased against the said commissioners; and further, the said pretended decreet was purchased by many sinister means used by umquhile William Earl of Gowry in that matter, whilk are not necessary to rehearse, and the community of Dundee has their action depending for reduction thereof, and the said burgh of Dundee has ever been in possession of the priority before the giving of the said decreet, and continually since that time, sic subscribitur, Scrymgeur of Dudop, provost, John Finlayson, Patrick Lyon, Robert Fledger, Mr Alexander Wedderburn; as the said claim, whilk is subscribed by the said provost and commissioners, in itself proports.

For instructing of the whilk claim, the said commissioners produced their writts and evidents following, to witt, ane commission given by King Robert Bruce of good memorie; whereby his Highness gave full power and commission, to Bernard, Abbot of Aberbrothock, chancellor of Scotland, and Sir Alexander Fraser, great chamberlane of Scotland for the time, to recognoss the liberties of the burgesses of Dundee had and possessed in the time of King Alexander his predecessors, and in times of other kings and predecessors, and for returning to his Highness the certainty, whilk should be found by the said commissioners thereanent, as the same whilk is under his Highness's great seal, dated the twenty-second day of June, and of his reign the twentieth year, in itself proports, with the recognition preceding upon the said commission, containing the liberty whilk the said burgesses of Dundee had for the time of the said King Alexander and his Highness's predecessors, whilk recognition was had at Dundee the day the year of God one thousand four hundred and five years, as in the same, whilk has the seal of diverse of the barons and burrows of the realm, (who were used by his Highness's

Digitized by Google

ness's commissioners foresaid in taking trial upon the said liberties), appended thereto, at greater length is mentioned.

Item, Ane charter made by the said King Robert the Bruce, concerning the privileges granted to the said town of Dundee, and burgesses thereof, whilk is under the great seal, of the date the fourth day of March, and of his Highness's reign the twenty-second year, together also, with ane decreet and sentence arbitrall pronounced by Robert Duke of Albany, Earl of Fyfe and Monteith, chamberlane of Scotland for the time, and his Grace's council, proceeding upone ane question moved betwixt the said burghs of Perth and Dundee, concerning the libertie within the said water of Tay, and freedom thereof; whilk questions were submitted to the said Duke of Albany and his Grace's council, and ane decreet pronounced by him and them thereanent, as the same having the great seal appended thereto, of the date, at Edinburgh, the day of , anno one thousand four hundred and two years, at more length is contained. And last, the said commissioner of Dundee produced ane new charter made and granted to the said burgesses and inhabitants of the said burgh, by our Sovereign Lord who now is, ratifying and approving the foresaids writts and evidents, together with divers other writts concerning those liberties, containing also ane new disposition therein, with express power to the inhabitants of the said burgh of Dundee and successors, to uptake twelve pennies of ilk tun of goods that shall enter in, whatsoever boat or ship coming within the mouth of the said water, and going out thereof, in all time coming, and to apply the said new impositions of twelve pennies, for placing tuns in the water-mouth of Tay, as meiths and signs, to design the dangers therein, and for upholding of the said tuns in time coming; as the same, whilk is given under the great seal, dated at Holyrood-house, the sixteenth day of January, anno one thousand six hundred years, proports.

The whilk clames of either of the said parties, with the writs

Digitized by Google

writs produced by either of them, for instructing thereof as said is; being at length seen and considered, and all their allegations being at length disputed by their advocates, and sufficiently heard and well understood.

Our Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Session, in one voice, but any discrepance, has pronounced, declared, and decerned; likeas they pronounce, declare, and decern, as after follows, that is to say, his Highness, and his Lords of Counsell and Session, finds, deems, and declares, that the infeftments granted to either of the said burghs of Perth and Dundee respective, by our said Sovereign Lord who now is, shall be limited and astricted in manner after mentioned, to the heads and conditions contained in the old infeftments, produced by them as said is, and granted by our Sovereign Lord's most noble progenitors. And for so much as the said old infeftments, granted by our said Sovereign Lord's most noble progenitors, to either of the said burghs, makes mention of certain liberties and privileges within the water of Tay, acclaimed by both the said burghs.

Our Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session, all in one voice, as said is, being ripely advised with the said old infeftments of both the said parties, and for removing of all questious and quarrels that may arise, upon the said liberties and privileges within the said water of Tay, betwixt the said parties, at any time hereafter.

Decerns, declares, and explains, both the said old and new infeftments, to be effectual in that part concerning the said liberties in the water of Tay, as follows, that is to say, That the said burgh of Perth, and no others, has and shall have liberty and privilege of free ports within the water of Tay, so far as the same runs forenent the sheriffdom of Perth, and within that bounds on both sides of the water. And sicklike, that the said burgh of Dundee has, and no others shall have, libertie and privilege of free port within the water of Tay, so far as the same runs forenent the sheriffdom of Forfar, and within that bounds on both sides

Digitized by Google

sides of the water, it being always lisome to both the inhabitants of the said burgh, and their successors in all times hereafter, to have free course in passing and repassing up and down the water of Tay, with their ships, boats, and vessels, within all the bounds thereof, at their pleasure, as any other of his Majesty's free burgesses, and also they, and either of them, shall have liberty in buying and selling in and upon the said water of Tay, in all the bounds thereof, as any other of his Majesty's free burghs, as said is: Likeas, either of them shall have libertie and power (in their stress and necessity) to lighten and disburthen their ships, barks, and vessels, within any part of the said water, as any other of his Majesty's free burghs, in all time coming.

And as concerning the subsidy and impost, granted by our said Sovereign Lord, for placing of the tuns in the water-mouth of Tay, as marks, meiths, and signs, for demonstrating the perils and dangers there, in manner foresaid, contained in the said second article of the claim, produced by the said commissioners of the said burgh of Dundee, and the foresaid new infeftments granted to the said burgh of Dundee, thereanent proports.

Our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session, finds, decerns, and declares, That the burgesses inhabitants of the said burgh of Dundee, and their successors, has the only full and undoubted right to uplift the foresaid subsidy and impost, called tun-silver, according to their rights and infeftments above written, whilk his said Majesty and Lords find to be sufficient to them to that effect.

Likeas, our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Session, decerns and ordains the provost, baylaies, counceil and community of the burgh of Dundee, and their successors, to uphold and sustain the said tuns sufficiently, as accords, in such sufficient number as shall be necessary, and that they shall have power by themselves and their deputies, to uplift the

Digitized by Google

the said subsidy at the loising and loadning of the ships and vessels, and otherways to ask and receive the samen lawfully of the persons addebted at the ports and places where they discharge their haill loadning for the last part thereof, or when they input their loadning in any part within the said water of Tay, to the whilk the inhabitants of the said burgh of Perth shall make no impediment: And our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Council and Session, decerns them to desist and cease therefrom. Always it is declared by our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Council and Session, considering that the said tun-silver is granted for ane cause and work necessary and profitable, whilk must be maintained by the inhabitants of the said burgh of Dundee, that the same shall make no derogation to the liberties of the burgh of Perth, whilk they are decerned by this decreet to have upon the said water of Tay, seeing the said town of Dundee is only appointed and delegate by his Majesty, as collectors therein, for the well and upholding of the common work, whilk they are bound to uphold, as said is.

And further, his Majesty and the said Lords declares, That it shall not be leisome to the said burgh of Dundee, to apboard any ships, boats, or other vessels, being upon the seas and in their voyages, and without ports and havens, or to make to them any stay or impediment, for the said subsidy or tun-silver, but prejudice to them to crave and uplift the same otherways.

And moreover, our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Session, decerns, declares, and ordains the said pettie customs, anchorages, dock-silver, and other small dues pertaining always to the said burgh of Dundee, haven, and port thereof, disponed to them by their old infeftments, shall stand to them and their successors in the same effect and manner, and shall be sicklyke enjoyed and uplifted by them, as any other burgh within this our realm, having ane free port pertaining thereto, bruiks and uplifts the said pettie

Digitized by Google

tie customs, anchorage, dock-silver, and other small duties foresaid, and no other ways: And as concerning the toist, exaction, and particular duties above writen, whilk are mentioned and enumerate in the decreet of secret council, produced by the said commissioners of Perth, in presence of his Majesty and the foresaid Lords, as said is, and whilk was granted by his Highness for reparation of the said peir, shore, bull-work, and haven of Dundee, during the space mentioned in the said gift, granted by his Highness to the said town of Dundee, in manner above rehearsed; our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of his Council and Session, having seen and considered the said decreet, and hail contents thereof, they have decerned and ordained the said provost, baylzies, and inhabitants of the said burgh of Perth, to be free of the said toist, and impost, called the shore-silver, and of all other duties specified in the said decreet, frae whilk they are decerned to be made free, by the same decreet of secret council, after the form and tenor of the said decreet, given thereanent in all points, whilk decreet his Majesty, and Lords foresaid, ratifies and approves.

And also, his Majesty, and the foresaid Lords, decerns and declares, That none of the said burghs shall, in hurt and prejudice of others, claim any other right, title, privilege, jurisdiction, or power, either by water or land, nor none other thing whereby any of the said burghs the ane may prejudice the other, otherwise than was before specified, in time hereafter; but that they, and every ane of them, shall desist and cease frae mollestation and troubling of others thereanent, and obey the tenor of this present decreet in all time coming.

And as to the first place and rank, acclaimed by the said burghs of Perth and Dundee, in parliament, general conventions, councils of estates of this realm, and assemblies of burghs, our said Sovereign Lord, and Lords of Session, find and declare, That the said burgh of Perth, and their commissioners, shall have the place before the said burgh

burgh of Dundee, and their commissioners, in all the foresaid public meetings; and that the said burgesses of Dundee, and their successors, and their commissioners, shall make no impediment to them therein in no time coming. Attour, his Majesty, and the Lords of Session, finds and declares the foresaid new infeftments granted to either of the said burghs, to be good, valid, effectual, and sufficient in themselves, in thir twa heads and parties thereof underwritten allenarly.

To witt, in so far as the same, or any one of the said two infeftments, contain any clause, privilege, disposition, or provision, whilk is mentioned or expressed in their foresaid old infeftments, made to either of the said burghs, by our said Sovereign Lord's most noble progenitors, as said is: And whereas, the said new infeftments agree, and are conform to the said old infeftments, and with the heads and articles contained in this above written decreet-arbitral. And,

Secontlly, In so far as the same new infeftments, or either of them, contains ane new clause, disposition, or provision, whilk touches none of the said two burghs in their own particular interests, and by the whilk neither of them may be hurt, prejudged, or damnified, in neither of their privileges and liberties granted unto them; and albeit the same clause be not contained in the same old infeftments, but contains other parts, to the whilk two heads his Majesty and the said Lords restricts and limitates the said two new infeftments, granted to the said burghs: Likeas, they have explained the said old infeftments, in manner as is contained in this above written decreet, and decerns the same to have full strength, force, and effect, in the said two heads above written allenarly, and in so far as the same new infeftments, or any of them, contains any content, other clause, head, or condition, by and attour the two heads above written, and beside the articles above specified of this present decreet-arbitral, for the whilk also the same infeftments are maintained and allowed; his Majesty and the said Lords retracts, rescinds,

Digitized by Google

rescinds, casses, and annuls the same infeftments, and either of them, in that part thereof, and decerns the same to have been from the beginning, to be now and in all time coming, null and of none avail, force, strength, nor effect, with all that has followed or may follow thereupon, excepting always the foresaid privileges and articles, whilk are authorised, and established by this decreet, as said is.

And, finally, his Majesty, and the said Lords of Council and Session, decerns and ordains, both the said burghs, and their successors in all times hereafter, to entertain Christian love, peace, charity, and quietness, and to live in a Christian society, and neighbourly love, friendship, and company, as becomes our said Sovereign Lord's leiges and subjects, as burgesses, under one prince, and within one kingdom, that no question nor trouble may arise betwixt them hereafter, nor no time coming. And to that effect, and that the same peace may be the more hearty and effectual, and have the longer continuance betwixt them, his Majesty and the said Lords ordains, that all whatsoever acts, statutes, and ordinances, made within any of the said burghs, upon envy and malice against their neighbours, without any seen profit or advantage to the common weill of either of the said burghs, shall be of none avail, force, nor effect, but shall be null in themselves, in all time coming; and declares all and whatsoever acts and constitutions, sicklyke made, (if any shall happen to be made at any time hereafter in the like nature), to be also null, and of no force nor effect; and whosoever of the said burrows shall happen to make any of the said constitutions hereafter, our Sovereign Lord and the said Lords declares the makers of the said acts to be transgressors of this arbitrall-decreet, and to be breakers of the common weill and charitable peace, whilk is by this same decreet established and ordained to stand betwixt the said burghs, in all time coming; and for sure observing, keeping, and fulfilling, of all and

Digitized by Google

sundry the heads, articles, and clauses of this present decreet, ilk ane of the said parties to others, our said Sovereign Lord and Lords of his Session ordains letters to be directed to the effect foresaid, if need bees, in form as effeirs. Extractum de libro actorum per me Magistrum Joannem Skene, clericum rotolorum registri ac consilij, S. D. N. Regis sub meis signo, et subscriptione manualibus. Sic subscribitur, Joannes Skene, clericus registri, &c.

NUM-

Digitized by Google

NUMBER III.

COPY

OF THE

CHARTER GRANTED BY QUEEN MARY TO THE TRADES OF THE BURGH OF PERTH.

Translated from the Latin Original.

MARY, by the grace of God, Queen of Scots, to all good men to whom thir presents shall come, greeting. Forasmuchas, we, understanding that our noble progenitors, kings of Scotland, having regard and respect to the common well and policy of our kingdome; and that good manners and order did arise therein and increase by tradesmen, without whome no kingdome nor city could stand or be in esteem, did give and grant sundry privileges and libertys to tradsmen of burghs and citys of our kingdome, especially to our burgh of Perth, which, by the said privilege, was equal in libertys, to wit, in the use of commerce, buying and selling of staple goods of all kinde, sailing and trafique in merchandise, with all other libertys and privileges within the burgh as the merchands did, or could use the samen; and that they might elect knowing men of their own trads to visite, lest any extortione might be drawne in use by the said tradsmen against the leiges of

Digitized by Google

our kingdome, which privileges were inviolably observed and kept by the said tradsmen of our kingdome, of all the burrows therein, and chiefly by the tradsmen of our said burgh of Perth in all time bygone; which, nevertheless, by ane act of parliament held in June 1555, for certain causes exprest and agitated in the said parliament being abolished, it was appointed that no deacon thereafter should be elected within a burgh; but that the provost, baillies, counsellors of every burgh, should elect the best and most knowing tradsmen in their own trade; and that these persons should be called visitors of their trade, and that they should be chosen yearly at Michaelmas; and that no tradsman should carry office within the burgh for the future, save two to be elected yearly in the counsell of the said burgh, with sundry other restrictions, as in the said act of parliament at more length is contained. From the time of which statute, we knowing that none of the reasons or causes which moved the parliament thereto has taken effect; but that all things with the said tradsmen are more remissly done than before; and moreover, we having respect that the said burgh of Perth doth daily increase, and is chiefly upheld by the fortuns, order, and policy of the tradsmen, and that they exceed the rest of the inhabitants and indwellers of the said burgh in number, and do equall the merchands themselves therof, in paying all manner of stents, taxations, and impositions whatsoever imposed on the said burgh, and that they are perpetually ready with their bodys and goods to defend our authority, as the rest of the said burgh: We, therefore, desiring peace, friendship, and good will betwixt the merchands and tradsmen of the said burgh, may, for the future, appear, and be unanimously observed; and that every one of them, according to their several fortuns, have the equal use and enjoyment of their privileges for the future within the said burgh. Moreover, we being unwilling to abolish the privileges of our predecessors of old, justly granted to them, without

Digitized by Google

without great pressing and very lasting causes have retrocessed and reponed them in their ancient and intire state in all things; and for certain other just and reasonable causes moving us, our own proper motione and knowledge, have dispensed, and hereby dispence with the said tradsmen of our burgh of Perth anent the foresaid act of parliament, and all particles and clauses therein contained; and we repone them to the using and having of deacons of crafts, who may have suffrages and votes in electing, and may elect officers of burghs, and that the said tradsmen who are most skillfull, honest, and opulent in their own trade, within the burgh, may be elected for choising the said officers equally with the said merchants within the burgh, and that they shall be elected and created officers within the said burgh, equall in number with the merchands themselves at the time of the electione thereof; and that these offices which usually are granted to one, the merchands and tradesmen of the said burgh shall have the same, and shall be chosen yearly by turns; and that the saids tradsmen shall be admitted to the privileges of the gildry for payment of their dues to the dean of gild for the time; and if they be rejected by him from the same, that the provest, or any one of the bailies of the said burgh, shall receive him therto, as was before used and wont; and that the said tradsmen shall be chosen and made commissioners, equal in number with the merchands themselves at all occasions, and that they shall be equal auditors of the compts of the common good of our said burgh; and that they shall use and have equall privileges, offices, and liberty within our said burgh, with the merchands therof, notwithstanding our said act of parliament, or any other acts, statutes, constitutions, letters, mandats, or proclamations whatsomever made, or to be made in the contrare, or any pains therin contained; wheranent we, by thir presents, dispence with the said tradsmen, present and

Digitized by Google

to come. Moreover we, by these presents, ratify and approve all other privileges, libertys, and facultys, given and granted by our noble progenitors to the said tradsmen, in times bygone. In testimony whereof, we command our great seall to be appended to thir presents, at Edinburgh, the twenty-eight day of May, and year of our Lord one thousand five hundred and fifty-six, and fourteen of our reign.

NUM.

Digitized by Google

NUMBER IV.

COPY

OF

KING JAMES VI's CHARTER, IN FAVOUR OF THE CRAFTSMEN OF BURROWS.

JAMES, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all and sundry our leiges and subjects, to whose presence thir presents shall come, greeting. Witt ye, because we understanding that our noble progenitors, kings of Scotland, having ane good minde and respect to the common well of our realm; and that without honest craftsmen the common policy well composed could not stand long: Therefore they gave and granted many and diverse privileges to the craftsmen of our borrows of Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, and all other borrows and citys of our realm; and namely, That they might elect and choice principally of every craft in superiors, and deacons to visite and expede their own crafts, to the effect that no extortione might be brought in use to the leiges of our realm; but that every craftsman should work and labour honestly in his own craft, without fraud, or guile, or malice, and to make statutes and pains upon their own crafts, and the same to put to execution, and to keep every one upon their own, according to equity and reasone, that thereby they may reimpensate of all damage or skaiths. Attour, they granted privileges and power to honest craftsmen that are free bur-

Digitized by Google

gesses of borrows, to sail and merchandise, as other merchands of our realm uses, with other diverse and sundry privileges and facultys granted to them under the great seal of our most noble progenitors, be us seen and considered, whilks not the less be our act of parliament holden at the day of June 1555, for certain causes exprest and declared in the said parliament, it was statute and ordained, That no deacon from that time furth should be chosen within burgh; but that the provost, bailies, and counsellors of every burgh, should choice a craftsman most honest and cunning in his own craft, and that the persons shall be called visitors of crafts, and yearly to be chosen at the feast of Michaelmas; and that no craftsmen bear office in burgh in time coming, except two to be chosen yearly upon the counsell of burgh, with diverse other restrictions, as at more length is contained in the said act of parliament; and we acknowledging that the time of the making of the said act, there was no reasonable cause wherefore the same should have been done to the effect it was deduced, and thereby many of the said crafts being more slack than of before: Therefore, we, most willing to dirogate our privileges granted by our predecessors, (without a great, urgent, and weighty cause), granted off before according to equity and reason, and therefore repones them in their former state. And sicklike, we desiring that no publick nor private dissentions, hatred, and contentions should occur amongst our merchants and craftsmen dwelling within our borrows; and for certain other reasonable causes moving us of our own proper motione and knowledge, with advice of the Lords of our Secret Counsell, have dispensed, likeas we, be the tenor hereof, dispences with all and sundry craftsmen of our said borrows of Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, and remanent borrows and cities of our realm, anent the said act of parliament, and all the articles and clauses therein contained, unto the whilk privileges and libertys granted by our most noble

noble progenitors of before to them, whereof they have been in a long and continual possession, be virtue of the same. We repone them to use, and have deacons of crafts who shall have vote in choising of officers of borrows, and shall elect and admit all kinds of craftsmen within burgh, to use and exercise their crafts if they be found able therefore; and they shall sicklyke hear the compts of the common good, and be parts of the auditors thereof; and they shall conveen and make privileges, statutes, and ordinances, above the said craftsmen, for keeping of good order amongst them, and sustentatione and entertainment of God's service, and shall use and exercise all manner of merchandize within our said realm, and out with the same, as they shall think most expedient to their greatest commodity, with all and sundry privileges, liberties, and faculties, granted to them be our most noble progenitors, or whereof they have been in possession in times past, notwithstanding the said act of parliament, or whatsomever pains contained therein; anent the whilks, we, by thir presents, dispence: Attour we, by thir presents, ratifys and approves all privileges and libertys given and granted by our most noble progenitors to the saids craftsmen in all time bypast, to be used and exercised by them in the same form, force, and effect, in all time coming, as they possest the same of before, without impediment or contradiction. Wherefore we command and charge you, all and sundry our lieges and subjects, that ye, nor none of you presume in the contrare of thir presents, nor make any impediment, molestation, or obstacle, in time coming, to the saids craftsmen, in the brooking, possessing, and using of the privileges, libertys, and facultys, above written, notwithstanding whatsomever letters, statutes, commands, or proclamations made, or to be made, in the contrare, or any pains contained therein, under all pain, peril, and offence, whilk ye or any of you may incur or commit against our

Digitized by Google

our Majesty, in that part. In witness of the whilk things to thir presents we have commanded our great seal to be appended, at Dalkeith, the twenty-second day of July, one thousand five hundred and eighty-one, et regni nostri decimo quarto.

MEMO.

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH.

SECT. V.

No. 1.

LIST OF THE MINISTERS OF PERTH FROM THE REFORMATION.

I. Mr John Row, appointed minister July 17. 1560. Died at Perth, October 1580. He had been several years at Rome, as commissioner from the Popish court of Scotland. He returned about 1555, with instructions from the Pope for opposing the progress of the Reformation; but having heard the discourses of John Knox, and acquired some knowledge of the principles of the Reformation, he became a convert from Popery; and, at Mr Knox's earnest desire, entered into the ministry among the reformers.

II. Mr Patrick Galloway, called to be minister at Perth November 14. 1580. He fled into England May 1584; having fallen under the displeasure of the King, and the party which then prevailed, because of the attachment he had expressed to William Earl of Gowrie.

III. Mr John Howyson, minister of Cambuslang, appointed minister at Perth, *pro tempore*, November 1584.

IV. Mr

Digitized by Google

IV. Mr Patrick Galloway having regained the king's favour, returned to his charge at Perth, November 1585. The General Assembly, June 1589, appointed him to leave his charge and wait upon the king. In June 1607 he was appointed one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

V. Mr John Malcom, formerly one of the regents, and afterwards Principal of St Leonard's College at St Andrew's, was ordained minister at Perth, November 4. 1591. Died at Perth, Oct 3. 1634.

VI. Mr William Cowper, formerly minister at Bothkennar, in the presbytery of Stirling, having some time preached at Perth, was admitted minister at Perth with Mr John Malcom, June 23. 1595. Made bishop of Galloway, July 31. 1614. Resigned his charge at Perth, Oct 23. 1615. Afterwards made Dean of the Chapel-royal at Edinburgh. Died at Edinburgh, February 15. 1619.

VII. Mr John Guthry, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr John Malcom, February 20. 1617. Translated to Edinburgh, June 11. 1621. Made Bishop of Murray, November 20. 1623. Deprived of his bishopric at the re-establishment of Presbyterian government in 1638.

VIII. Mr John Robertson, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr John Malcom, March 3. 1622. Deposed by the General Assembly, May 28. 1645, for his having conversed at Perth with the Marquis of Montrose, an excommunicated person. He was restored to the ministry by the Synod of Perth and Stirling, October 11. 1654: But an act of Assembly having been made, that no deposed minister should be restored to the parish in which he had formerly served, Mr Robertson, though he continued to live in Perth, never again exercised his ministry there.

IX. Mr Joseph Laurie, formerly minister at Stirling, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr John Robertson, February 1635. Died at Perth, July 1640.

X. Mr Robert Laurie, son to Mr Joseph Laurie, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr John Robertson, Aug. 4. 1641.

Digitized by Google

1641. Translated to Edinburgh, March 1644. Made dean of Edinburgh after the restoration of King Charles II.; and afterwards bishop of Brechin. Died at Edinburgh, 1677.

XII. Mr George Halyburton, formerly minister in Menmuir, in the presbytery of Brechin, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr John Robertson, August 4. 1644. Made bishop of Dunkeld, January 18. 1662. Resigned his charge at Perth, October 1664. Died, February 1665.

XIII. Mr Alexander Rollock, formerly minister at Dunkeld, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr George Halyburton, September 25. 1645. Died at Perth, October 1652.

XIV. Mr William Colvill, formerly minister at Edinburgh, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr George Halyburton, February 1. 1655. Died at Perth, September 1662. When minister at Edinburgh, he had been deposed by the General Assembly, July 1648, for favouring what was called "the Unlawful Engagement," or the levy for war, which the Scots parliament had enjoined for the re-establishment of King Charles I. when prisoner in the Isle of Wight; more especially for his having refused to intimate a fast which had been appointed for the purpose of defeating that levy. He was restored to the ministry by the synod of Lothian, November 8. 1654. Henry Guthry, in his Memoirs of Scotland, says of him, that "for his eminence in learning, diligence in his calling, and strictness in his conversation, he was an ornament to the church of Scotland." Also the Presbytery of Perth, April 8. 1657. in their answer to a scurrilous paper, give him the like attestation; and observe, that "his ministry had been remarkably blessed since he came to Perth."

XV. Mr Henry Auchinleck, formerly minister at Mains, in the presbytery of Dundee, admitted minister at Perth, with George Halyburton, Bishop of Dunkeld, December 23. 1662. Died at Perth, March 1667.

XVI.

Digitized by Google

XVI. Mr Mungo Law, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr Henry Auchinleck, June 1. 1665. Died July 1671.

XVII. Mr William Lindsay, formerly minister at Auchterderran, in the presbytery of Kirkcaldy, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr Mungo Law, April 9. 1668. Made Bishop of Dunkeld, May 7. 1677. Resigned his charge at Perth, October 1678. Died 1679.

XVIII. Mr Alexander Ross, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr William Lindsay, November 14. 1672. Resigned his charge at Perth, May 7. 1683, on being appointed professor of divinity in the college of Glasgow. In 1686, he was appointed principal of St Mary's college in St Andrew's; and the same year was made bishop of Murray. Made bishop of Edinburgh 1687, but was deprived of his bishopric by the act of Parliament abolishing Prelacy, July 22. 1689. Died at Edinburgh, March 20. 1720.

XIX. Mr Alexander Skeen, formerly professor of philosophy in the university of St Andrew's, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr Alexander Ross, June 26. 1679. Resigned his charge at Perth, May 31. 1680.

XX. Mr David Anderson, having first been professor of humanity in St Leonard's college in St Andrew's, and afterwards minister at Dumbarny in the Presbytery of Perth, was admitted minister at Perth, with Mr Alexander Ross, October 27. 1680. He was deprived at the Revolution.

XXI. Mr William Hay, formerly minister at Kilconquhar, in the presbytery of St Andrew's, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr David Anderson, March 1684. Resigned his charge at Perth on being made bishop of Murray, February 4. 1688. Was deprived of his bishopric at the Revolution. Died at Castlehill, his son-in-law's house, near Inverness, March 17. 1707.

XXII. Mr Adam Barclay, formerly minister at Keig, in the Presbytery of Alford, in the shire of Aberdeen, admitted

Digitized by Google

mitted minister at Perth, with Mr David Anderson, May 1688. Deprived at the Revolution.

XXIII. Mr John Anderson, formerly minister at Auchtergaven, in the presbytery of Dunkeld, but now conforming to Presbyterian government, was appointed by an act of the Synod of Perth and Stirling, minister at Perth, *pro tempore*, after the deprivation of Mr David Anderson and Mr Adam Barclay. Though never actually acknowledged as minister by the town-council, he continued to exercise his ministry at Perth, until Mr Robert Anderson was admitted; and then was translated to Edinburgh.

XXIV. Mr Robert Anderson, formerly minister at Leuchars, in the presbytery of St Andrew's, admitted minister at Perth, June 4. 1691. Died at Perth, July 26. 1704.

XXV. Mr Thomas Black, formerly minister at Strathmiglo, in the presbytery of Coupar, and afterwards minister at Weems, in the presbytery of Kirkcaldie, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr Robert Anderson, April 3. 1698. Appointed professor of divinity in the university of St Andrew's, in 1707: But was retained in his charge at Perth by the pressing importunity of his parishioners. Died at Perth, October 25. 1739.

XXVI. Mr George Blair, formerly minister at St Madoes, in the presbytery of Perth, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr Thomas Black, October 23. 1705. Died at Perth, May 14. 1712.

XXVII. Mr John Fleming, formerly minister at the castle of Edinburgh, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr Thomas Black, February 24. 1713. Died at Perth, April 12. 1719.

XXVIII. Mr William Wilson, probationer in the presbytery of Dumblane, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr Thomas Black and Mr John Fleming, November 1. 1716. In 1733, he was translated to the second minister's charge and stipend, in the room of Mr William Stewart, then

Digitized by Google

then deceased. In August 1773, he was suspended from his ministry, and deposed, together with seven other ministers, by an act of Assembly, May 15. 1740, for following a divisive course, and for declining the judicatories of the church. Died at Perth, in 1741.

XXIX. Mr William Stewart, formerly minister at Blairgowrie, in the presbytery of Meigle, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr Thomas Black and Mr William Wilson, July 4. 1721. Died at Perth, January 28. 1733.

XXX. Mr David Black, son to Mr Thomas Black, ordained minister at Perth, with Mr Thomas Black and Mr William Wilson, June 14. 1737. Died at Perth, May 22. 1771.

XXXI. Mr Henry Lindsay, formerly minister at Bothkennar, in the presbytery of Stirling, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr David Black, October 15. 1741. Died at Perth, May 2. 1745.

XXXII. Mr John Warden, formerly minister at Campsey, in the presbytery of Glasgow, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr David Black, March 16. 1747. Translated to the Canongate of Edinburgh, November 6. 1775. Died there.

XXXIII. Mr John Bonnar, formerly minister at Cockpen, in the presbytery of Dalkeith, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr David Black, July 29. 1756. Died at Perth, December 21. 1761.

XXXIV. Mr James Scott, formerly minister at Kinfauns, in the presbytery of Perth, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr David Black, Nov. 4. 1762.

XXXV. Mr James Moody, formerly minister at Mouswald, in the presbytery of Lochmaben, admitted minister at Perth, with Mr James Scott, June 11. 1772.

ACCOUNT

Digitized by Google

NUMBER II.

ACCOUNT

OF THE

RECTORS

OF THE

GRAMMAR-SCHOOL.

THIS seminary of learning has been accounted one of the first-rate schools in Scotland, since the æra of the Reformation. It was under the government of a rector, or master, two ushers, and a janitor; with good salaries from the town-council, and a small portion to the master from the kirk-session.

It had also originally a music-master, with a salary; and the kirks of Perth excelled in church-music.

I. Mr WILLIAM RYND is the first rector we have on record. From the register of the kirk-session we are informed, that the managers of the hospital granted certain rents to William Rynd, son to umquhil (deceased) Patrick Rynd, a necessary and profitable servant to the kirks of Perth, September 15. 1589. He is mentioned as rector of the school on the 16th of March 1590. Such was his reputation, that he was appointed to go abroad with the young Earl of Gowrie, and his brother Mr Alexander, as their governor. A. D. 1594, he attended them to Padua, and returned in 1597. The Earl did not return until 1600.

Digitized by Google

II. A. D. 1604, Mr PATRICK JOHNSTON, November 5. The managers of the hospital were ordained to furnish a new gown of black cloth to this rector.

III. Mr JOHN DORRAT, alias DURWARD, succeeded Mr Johnston, A. D. 1622. He died in November 1631.

IV. A. D. 1632, Mr JOHN ROW was chosen rector. He was grandson to the celebrated Dr John Row, the first reformed minister of Perth, in 1569. He taught Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, and was afterwards, A. D. 1640, chosen minister in Aberdeen, where, in 1643, he published his Institutions of the Hebrew Language. He was succeeded by,

V. Mr PATRICK JOHNSTON, probably the son of Mr Patrick Johnston, second rector in this list; he had a numerous and flourishing school, and was succeeded by,

VI. Mr WILLIAM PATON, A. D. 1656. He was first school-master at Meigle; besides his salary, the magistrates and council gave him a free house, and a chalder of coals; for Cromwell's army had pulled down the school-house (in which were apartments for the rector and ushers) to build the citadel; he died the 7th of December, and was succeeded by,

VII. Mr GEORGE PATERSON, January 1. 1685. He was Professor of Humanity in the old college of St Andrew's. To him succeeded,

VIII. Mr ANDREW ANDERSON, A. D. 1668, who was succeeded by,

IX. Mr HENRY CRIE, a native of Perth, who was succeeded by,

X. Mr ARCHIBALD GUILLANE, January 3. 1679; he was school-master at Prestonpans; he was chosen rector of the high school of Edinburgh, and gave in his demission to the council, and was succeeded by,

XI. Mr JAMES ROSS, schoolmaster at Dunkeld, A. D. 1679, who died 1690, and was succeeded by,

XII. Mr WILLIAM SAUNDERS, schoolmaster at Dundee, March

Digitized by Google

March 17. 1690. On the 16th of October 1704, he, because of infirmity and old age, demitted his office, and the town-council settled on him during his life 300 merks out of the salary of the next rector. On the 9th of November was chosen,

XIII. Mr JOHN MARTIN, schoolmaster at Dumbarnie, who agreed to Mr Saunders's annuity during his life, on which account the town-council allowed to Mr Martin the whole Candlemas gift during Mr Saunders's life, instead of two thirds, the usual proportion to the rector. He was succeeded on the 24th of July 1732, by his son,

XIV. Mr JAMES MARTIN, who taught with considerable success about eleven years. He died the 23d July 1743, and in his room was chosen, the 29th of December following,

XV. Mr WALTER GREIG, schoolmaster at Cupar in Fife. The magistrates, besides his salary of 500 merks, appointed for him the equal half of the quarter-payments of the classes taught by the three ushers, and the whole quarter-payments of his own class; as also two thirds of the Candlemas gift, and the other third to be divided among the two first ushers, who, besides their salaries and quarter-payments, had other emoluments granted them. The third usher had also, besides his salary, proper dues belonging to his office. He died in 1752, and was succeeded by,

XVI. Mr ANDREW CORNFUTE, schoolmaster at Dunkeld, May 18. 1752. He was formerly first usher in Mr James Martin's time, and was called to Dunkeld, where he raised the reputation of that school, and taught with considerable applause and success. On September 28. 1772, Mr Cornfute resigned his office, the town-council settling on him an annuity of L. 50 during life, which he only enjoyed till February 1773. The rectorship continued vacant till April 5. 1779, when it was supplied by the appointment of,

Digitized by Google

XVII. Mr ALEXANDER WATSON, formerly usher, who filled the office very ably, till August 5. 1790, when his health becoming impaired, he resigned; the council allowing him an annuity of L. 60 during life, in consideration of his long and faithful services. He was succeeded, on October 11. 1790, by,

XVIII. Mr WILLIAM DICK, from St Andrew's, who still continues to exercise that office in a manner calculated to support the character and celebrity this Seminary has so long and justly enjoyed.

ACCOUNT

Digitized by Google

NUMBER III.

ACCOUNT

OF THE

ACADEMY.

MANY gentlemen in town and country having expressed their wish for an Academy in Perth, the town-council, on the 24th of September 1760, came to the following resolution: "Having considered the great utility it would be to the youth of this place and the neighbourhood, that an Academy for Literature and the Sciences should be established in Perth, they recommend to the present and succeeding Magistrates, to make inquiry on what footing these Academies are in other places, and to report the most proper plans to the Council." In consequence of this resolution, upon the 17th of November following, a memorial drawn up by Mr James Bonar, one of the ministers of Perth, was read in council, in which he says, that,

"In an age so much enlightened, it is needless to say any thing in support of learning in general; only it may be proper to observe, that the powers and capacities of the human mind are perhaps much more upon a level than is commonly thought, so that the surprising difference which we observe between one man and another, is not so much owing to any natural superiority, as it is to a more careful cultivation, and more happy occasions of exercise and improvement.

Digitized by Google

"It has indeed been the misfortune of some ages to have education either entirely neglected, or to run in a very improper channel. Thus in times not long past, all learning was made to consist in the grammatical knowledge of dead languages, and skill in metaphysical subtilties, while what had an immediate reference to life and practice was despised.

"But Providence has cast our lot in happier times, when things begin to be valued according to their use, and men of the greatest abilities have employed their skill in making the sciences contribute not only to the improvement of the physician, lawyer, and divine, but to the improvement of the merchant, mechanic, and farmer, in their respective arts. Must it not, then, be of importance, to put it into the power of persons in these stations of life, to reap that advantage science is capable to afford them.

"Although our different universities are at this time filled with men of distinguished abilities, yet both the time necessary for completing a course of education there, and the vast expence of such attendance, must prove an insurmountable bar in the way of the greater part who have both inclination and capacity for these studies.

"The people of England have been so fully convinced of this, that we find private academies established almost in every great town, where not only the languages, but those sciences which are of the greatest use in life, are taught in a compendious and practical manner.

"The example, however, has not been sufficiently attended to in Scotland, where scarce any institution of that kind is to be found, although the advantage of it must appear from the following scheme of education, which is imagined might be easily executed in the space of two years."

FIRST

Digitized by Google

FIRST YEAR.

I. A short view of natural history in its different parts, viz. the constitution of the material world, the nature and property of the elements, and vegetable, mineral, and animal economy, as a proper introduction, is well calculated to fix the attention and awaken the curiosity of young people, being all illustrated by experiments.

II. To this should succeed an accurate instruction in the arithmetic of integers, with the use and application of vulgar and decimal fractions.

III. This prepares the way for the study of the first six books of Euclid.

IV. Plain trigonometry.

V. Practical geometry in its different parts, such as mensuration, surveying, dialing, fortification, &c. in theory and practice.

VI. Algebra.

VII. The 11th and 12th books of Euclid.

VIII. Spherical trigonometry.

IX. Navigation, with the use of the instruments necessary to a sailor.

X. The practical part of conic sections, with the doctrine of projectiles.

XI. The general principles and most useful problems in astronomy.

XII. In this year an hour to be spent, on the Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, in the study of the English language, and an hour each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, which hour shall be additional to the stated hours in the Academy for the Sciences.

SECOND YEAR.

I. The business of this year might be very properly introduced

troduced with some lectures upon the history of philosophy, and the rise and progress of the arts and sciences.

II. A course of natural philosophy should follow, or practical mathematics, illustrated by experiments on the mechanic powers, and their applications and uses in life.

III. To be succeeded by a practical course of geography, as an introduction to civil history, which should then follow.

IV. The history of commerce, and a short view of its present state in the different nations, particularly in Britain.

V. A short and practical system of logic should now be taught, that the young gentlemen may be instructed in the nature of composition, and in the proper method of studying and reasoning.

VI. The whole course to be concluded with a short and distinct account of the principles of religion and duty, which ought to regulate our conduct in every station and condition of life.

N. B. All the teaching in the academy, and exercises, ought to be in the English language.

To carry this plan into execution,

I. Two masters must be provided, men of character and sufficiency, who are not only knowing in their respective provinces, but also capable of communicating their sentiments with ease, and of giving the necessary application and attendance.

II. Each shall have a salary of L. 50 Sterling per annum.

III. Each shall teach three hours every day, except Saturday, when some public exercise shall be performed in the common school.

IV. The session shall continue ten months, viz. from the first of October to the first of August.

V. The Magistrates, with the Managers of the Academy,

Digitized by Google

my, shall annually make choice of one to be rector of the Academy, whose province it shall be to inspect the conduct of masters and students, to see that regular attendance is given, the laws and regulations observed; whose power shall continue for one year.

VI. Each student shall pay at his entry two guineas for the session, and shall be subjected to no other perquisite or payment for the public instructions in the Academy. But if any choose to be taught any other branch than what is in the Academy's plan, or to be attended at a private hour by any master, a particular agreement is to be made with the master.

VII. The rector shall be the receiver of the gratuity paid by the students, who shall divide it equally betwixt the two masters, so that there may be no interfering interests, but both induced to exert themselves for the good of the Academy.

VIII. Three rooms shall be provided for the Academy, one for each class, and one for a common school; where all shall meet for their public exercises, and once every day for public prayer.

It hath, for some considerable time, been the earnest desire of several gentlemen in town and country, to have an Academy on this or some plan established, and the town of Perth seems to them a place particularly adapted for an institution of this kind; for,

1. It is at a considerable distance from any of the universities.

2. The situation of the town is remarkably pleasant, and, whatever may have been suggested to the contrary, is certainly very healthful.

3. It is the centre of a very populous country, and is the place with which the Highlands of Scotland has the greateſt correspondence. So that an institution of this kind

Digitized by Google

kind would co-operate with the national plan of improving and civilizing the Highlands.

4. Provisions of all kinds are to be had at a reasonable rate; and there is good accommodation for such gentlemen as might either choose to send their children to board, or to reside with their families, for the benefit of the Academy.

5. The people, in general, are of a sober and industrious disposition; so that, perhaps, the manners of the youth are in less danger here of being corrupted, than in any of our great towns.

As it is proposed that the magistrates and council should fix the above-named salaries for the two masters, and provide a proper place for teaching in, it may not be improper to show, that the magistrates and council, in making such a provision out of the *common good*, will not only act a reasonable, but a highly commendable part, as such an institution must be greatly to the benefit of the place, and will be a standing monument of the good sense and public spirit of those who shall promote it.

The plan was approved by the magistrates and council, with a few amendments. They received very large recommendations in favour of Mr John Mair, schoolmaster in Ayr, well known in the literary department, thoroughly skilled in arithmetic and book-keeping, who had long taught with success the practical parts of mathematics and natural philosophy, and who was of an untainted moral character.

The magistrates and council, on the 23d of February 1761, unanimously nominated and appointed Mr Mair to be one of the masters of the Academy, with a salary of L. 50 per annum.

On the 16th of March following, having received ample recommendations in favour of John Tait, M. D. as properly qualified to teach natural, civil, and commercial history, with the other branches of the belles lettres; having communicated the matter to him, and obtained his consent,

Digitized by Google

consent, they unanimously elected him to be a master of the Academy, with a salary of L. 50 per annum.

A subscription was entered into for purchasing instruments for illustrating natural history, and natural philosophy, and proper books for the use of the Academy; which were accordingly published.

The Honourable John Murray of Strowan (now Duke of Athol) was unanimously elected rector for the year 1761, who was pleased to accept of the office.

According to the plan and regulations, the Academy was opened in October, and there were about forty students during the session.

Dr Tait, in A. D. 1763, resigned his office into the hands of the magistrates and town-council. The managers, at meeting, the 19th of December, appointed Mr Mair to teach the branches in Dr Tait's department, together with his own, in the interim, until another master should be chosen.

Mr Mair continued to teach all the branches, in both departments, with the assistance of an usher, until his death in 1769. This year, Mr Robert Hamilton of Edinburgh, was unanimously elected master, who, to his great abilities in every branch of the belles lettres, added unwearied application; and with the assistance of his usher, Mr George M'Naught, gave universal satisfaction. Mr (now Dr) Hamilton resigned his office July 5. 1779, upon an appointment to the natural philosophy professorship in the Marischal College, Aberdeen. He was succeeded by Mr Alexander Gibson, the present first master; a gentleman who, by the talent he possesses of imparting to the youthful mind, with ease and perspicuity, a knowledge of the more difficult and abstruse parts of mathematics and natural philosophy, and by his unremitting attention to the advancement of his pupils, has approved himself worthy to fill his office. This has been fully evinced by the alacrity and liberality with which his old pupils have come forward in

Digitized by Google

in all parts of the united kingdoms, with their subscriptions for the new seminaries. Indeed, the best criterion of the merits, both of the teachers and system of education taught at this Academy, is found in the annually-increasing number of students, not only from the town and adjacent country, but from the most distant parts of the kingdom, and even from foreign countries.

The plan of education followed for a number of years has been differently arranged from that laid down 1761, but nothing material has been omitted. The great attention paid to fine writing, drawing, painting, and chemistry, since that period, and the vast improvements in mathematical and philosophical knowledge, during the same interval, have superseded some articles in the original arrangement, not deemed so necessary at present in the education of youth. On the other hand, those branches in the original plan, that related to commerce, have been dilated, in compliance with the taste of the times. Indeed, the plan has been progressively improving since the first institution of the Academy; and particularly since the accession of the present first master, who has adopted such an arrangement in the subjects taught, as greatly facilitates their acquisition by the pupil.

The mathematical and philosophical departments of the Academical course, as well as commercial accompts of all kinds, with their *rationale*, have now been conducted for twenty-six years by Mr Gibson, with the assisstance of very able second masters. Of these we may notice Dr M'Omie, afterwards rector of the academy at Inverness, and Mr Wallace, well known by his ingenious mathematical dissertations, now one of the professors in the Royal Military College at Great Marlow. This last gentleman was succeeded by Gilbert Wright, A. M. the present learned and scientific second master.

There are other three departments now in the Academy; one,

Digitized by Google

one, for drawing and painting in oil, by Mr David Junor; another, for French and other modern languages, by Mr George Whitehead; and a third, for plain and ornamental writing, is conducted by Mr Ashmore. These three gentlemen have salaries allotted them by the town-council. They teach with much credit to themselves, and advantage to the public.

MEMO-

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MEMORABILIA OF PERTH.

SECT. VI.

LISTS OF THE SUBSCRIBERS FOR BUILDING THE BRIDGE, IN 1776; and THE PUBLIC SEMINARIES, IN 1804.

No. 1.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR BUILDING THE BRIDGE.

His Majesty King George, -	L.	11000	0 0
The town of Perth, - - -		2000	0 0
The royal boroughs, - -		500	0 0
The Earl of Kinnoul, - -		400	0 0
The Viscount Stormont, - -		300	0 0
Duke of Athol, - - -		200	0 0
Duke of Queensberry, - -		200	0 0
Earl of Bute, - - -		200	0 0
John Lord Gray, - - -		200	0 0
James Stewart M'Kenzie, Lord Privy Seal,		200	0 0
George Dempster of Dunnichen, -		105	0 0
Duke of Buccleugh, - -		100	0 0
Duchess of Argyle, - - -		100	0 0
Andrew Drummond of Machany, -		100	0 0
Patrick Crawfurd of Errol, - -		100	0 0

Adam

Digitized by Google

Adam Drummond of Meginch,	L. 100	0	0
General Græme of Gorthie,	100	0	0
Sir Lau. Dundas of Carse,	100	0	0
Earl of Hopeton,	100	0	0
Earl of Breadalbane,	100	0	0
Duke of Montrose,	100	0	0
Duke of Argyle,	50	0	0
Duke of Gordon,	50	0	0
Earl of Morton,	50	0	0
Earl of Marchmont,	50	0	0
Earl of Aberdeen,	50	0	0
Earl of Findlater,	50	0	0
Charles Craigie of Glendoick,	50	0	0
Robert Haldane of Gleneagles,	50	0	0
David Moncrieffe of Moredun,	50	0	0
Archibald Ogilvy of Inchmartin,	50	0	0
Archbishop of York,	50	0	0
Earl of Panmure,	50	0	0
John M'Kenzie of Delvin,	50	0	0
Earl of Fyffe,	50	0	0
William Mercer of Aldie,	50	0	0
Robert Oliphant of Rossie,	50	0	0
Dr Stewart Threipland of Barnhill,	30	0	0
Lord John Murray of Pitnacree,	30	0	0
The guildry incorporation of Perth,	26	5	0
Robert Auriol Drummond, Esq.	21	0	0
Thomas Græme of Balgowan,	21	0	0
Thomas Auriol Drummond, Esq.	21	0	0
Thomas Anderson, merchant in Perth,	21	0	0
William Sandeman, do.	21	0	0
George Faichney, do.	21	0	0
Thomas Marshall, do.	21	0	0
John Ramsay, do.	21	0	0
James Duncan, do.	21	0	0
Alexander Faichney, do.	21	0	0
James Farquharson, Esq. of Invercauld,	21	0	0

Samuel

Digitized by Google

Samuel Sampson, merchant in Perth, -	L. 21	0	0
John Blair of Balthayock, - -	21	0	0
Alexander Anderson, merchant in London,	21	0	0
Captain George Richardson, of the Pigot Indiaman, - - - - -	21	0	0
David Smyth, Esq. of Methven, -	21	0	0
John Richardson of Springfield, - -	20	0	0
The wright-incorporation of Perth, -	12	12	0
James Lord Ruthven, - - -	10	10	0
John Belsches of Invermay, - -	10	10	0
Lawrence Craigie of Dumbarney, -	10	10	0
John Murray of Lintrose, - -	10	10	0
Sir William Nairn of Dunsinnan, -	10	10	0
John Craigie of Kilgraston, - -	10	10	0
John Campbell of Auchalader, - -	10	10	0
James Smith of Balharry, - -	10	10	0
Sir John Stewart of Grandtully, - -	10	10	0
John Robertson of Tullibeltan, - - -	10	10	0
George Stewart of Kincarrochy, - -	10	10	0
Robert Robertson of Tullibeltan, - -	10	10	0
William Mercer of Deuglies, - -	10	10	0
James Murray of Dollary, - -	10	10	0
Alexander Wood of Burncroft, - -	10	10	0
George Abercrombie of Tullybodie, -	10	10	0
Mr John Swinton, sheriff-depute, -	10	10	0
James Burnet, Esq. of Monboddo, -	10	10	0
Captain Archibald Swinton, - -	10	10	0
Captain Joseph Austin, late of Kilspindie,	10	10	0
Mr Benjamin Græme, merchant in Antigua,	10	10	0
Mr John Reynolds, merchant in London,	10	10	0
George Young of Balgershaw, - -	10	10	0
The tailor-incorporation of Perth, -	10	10	0
The glover-incorporation of Perth, -	10	10	0
Archibald Stirling of Kier, - -	10	10	0
Dr Adam Drummond of Gardrum, -	10	0	0
Sir Ludovick Grant, - -	10	0	0
Mr James Grant, his son, - -	10	0	0

Digitized by Google

John Drummond of Logiealmond,	L.	10	0
Alexander Simpson, Esq. Provost of Perth,		10	0
David Sandeman, dean of guild there,		10	0
Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk,		10	0
The Convener-court of Perth,		10	0
Robert Gardiner of Few,		6	6
Sir William Stirling of Ardoch,		5	5
Sir James Campbell of Aberuchill,		5	5
James Erskine of Cardross,		5	5
Charles Barrow, merchant in London,		5	5
Mrs Hickson, vintner in Perth,		5	5
James Bisset, senior, merchant there,		5	5
David Young, coppersmith there,		5	5
Lawrence Proudfoot of Balboughty,		5	5
James Balmain, merchant,		5	5
John Caw, merchant in Perth,		5	5
Patrick Murray, sheriff-clerk,		5	5
Lord Banff,		5	5
James Goodlet Campbell of Auchline,		5	5
Charles Campbell of Lochdochart,		5	5
Robert Watt, Esq. of Woodend,		5	5
Mr Robert Scott Moncrieff, merchant in Edinburgh,		5	5
James Beveridge, writer in Edinburgh,		5	5
Mr Gascoign, merchant in London,		5	5
Laurence Craigie, collector of customs,		5	5
Dr Robert Wood, physician in Perth,		5	5
James Wright of Lanton,		5	0
Patrick Miller, writer in Perth,		5	0
Patrick Alison at Newhall,		5	0
The town of Forres,		5	0
Henry Fyffe, merchant and bailie in Perth,		5	0
William Alison, merchant, bailie there,		5	0
John Richardson, merchant there,		5	0
Walter Miller, town-clerk,		5	0
John Stewart, merchant, late provost,		5	0

James

James Kerr, Esq.	L. 5	0	0
The shoemaker-corporation,	5	0	0
The baker-corporation,	5	0	0
John Faichney, minister at Collace,	5	0	0
James Stewart of Urrard,	3	3	0
Patrick Duncan, writer,	3	3	0
Mr David Black, minister,	3	3	0
David Faichney, merchant,	3	3	0
Robert Stewart, vintner,	3	3	0
Patrick Duncan, jun. writer,	3	3	0
William Small, writer,	3	3	0
David Clark, in Coupar Angus,	3	3	0
Andrew Bell, engraver in Edinburgh,	3	3	0
John M'Nab of M'Nab,	3	3	0
Patrick Stewart, jun. merchant in Perth,	3	3	0
Charles Bell, shoemaker in Perth,	3	3	0
John Sheddan, smith there,	3	3	0
Andrew Ritchie, at Hole of Scone,	3	3	0
Andrew Thomson, merchant,	2	12	6
John Campbell of Kilpunt,	2	2	0
John Stewart Flemyng,	2	2	0
James Wright of Luss,	2	2	0
Major John Campbell of Glenlyon,	2	2	0
Patrick Gardener, merchant in Perth,	2	2	0
John Bisset, bookseller,	2	2	0
Laurence Buchan, merchant,	2	2	0
James Taylor, baker,	2	2	0
John Moor, shoemaker,	2	2	0
Thomas Mitchell, writer,	2	2	0
Patrick Thomson, merchant,	2	2	0
Mr James Scott, minister,	2	2	0
Robert Laing, merchant,	2	2	0
Peter Lennox, do.	2	2	0
David Walker, do.	2	2	0
Patrick Blacklaw, do.	2	2	0
David Buchan, flesher,	2	2	0

Digitized by Google

Provost William Gray, merchant,	L. 2	2	0
Dr Colin Robertson, physician,	2	2	0
Andrew Meliss, merchant,	2	2	0
Thomas Barland, glover,	2	2	0
Niel Menzies, surgeon in Perth,	2	2	0
Mr Andrew Cornfute, rector of the school,	2	2	0
William Campbell of Glenfalloch,	2	2	0
George Cockburn, Esq. of Knockhill, Advocate,	2	2	0
Henry Dundas, Esq. Advocate,	2	2	0
Cosmo Gordon, Esq.	2	2	0
Sir David Dalrymple of Hales, Advocate,	2	2	0
Mr William Nairn,	2	2	0
Mr John Stewart,	2	2	0
James Hunter in Inchture,	2	2	0
Joseph Faichney, merchant,	2	2	0
William Beath, do.	2	2	0
John Hutton, baker,	2	2	0
Patrick Stewart, glover,	2	2	0
Thomas Brown, shoemaker,	2	2	0
James Bissatt of Bankhead,	2	2	0
Patrick Baer in Bridgend,	2	2	0
William Blair at Scone,	2	2	0
Mr James Knox, minister,	2	2	0
Mr David Bennerman, do.	2	2	0
Mr Patrick Meik, minister at Kinnoul,	2	2	0
Mr George Chapman, minister at Kinfauns,	2	2	0
Mr David Dow, minister at Dron,	2	2	0
Mr Andrew Williamson, minister at Arngask,	2	2	0
Mr David Monerieffe, minister at Redgorton,	2	2	0
David Alison, writer,	2	0	0
Alexander Lawrie, baker,	2	0	0
Patrick Rintoul, glover,	1	1	0
James Warden, weaver,	1	1	0
James Burt, merchant,	1	1	0
Ebenezer Kippen, glover,	1	1	0
Alexander Stewart, merchant,	1	1	0

Laurence

Laurence Wedderson, merchant,	1	1	0
James Brydie, merchant,	1	1	0
John Wedderspoon, merchant,	1	1	0
Robert Gray, glover,	1	1	0
Robert Morrison, bookseller,	1	1	0
James Cant, surgeon,	1	1	0
James Pearson, baker,	1	1	0
James Cuthbert, merchant,	1	1	0
Andrew Ferrier, writer,	1	1	0
John Burt, vintner in Perth,	1	1	0
Archibald Campbell, merchant,	1	1	0
George Bett, shipmaster,	1	1	0
James Gillespie, merchant,	1	1	0
Robert Robertson, youngest, merchant,	1	1	0
Laurence Reid, maltman,	1	1	0
George Jack, dyer,	1	1	0
Thomas Brown, do.	1	1	0
Andrew Kettle, maltman,	1	1	0
James Morrison, merchant,	1	1	0
William Arnot, do.	1	1	0
Robert Davy, do.	1	1	0
Gilbert Stewart, wright,	1	1	0
Lieutenant William Morrison,	1	1	0
Thomas Young, dyer,	1	1	0
James Barlas, merchant,	1	1	0
James Rintoul, maltman,	1	1	0
John Young, wright,	1	1	0
John Rae, stationer,	1	1	0
Thomas Walker, weaver,	1	1	0
James Davidson, merchant,	1	1	0
John Gardiner, baker,	1	1	0
James Walker, shoemaker,	1	1	0
Alexander Porteous, merchant,	1	1	0
Laurence Mitchell, maltman,	1	1	0
William Byssat, merchant,	1	1	0
Alexander M'Leish, maltman,	1	1	0

Alexander Alison, merchant,	L. 1	1	0
Peter Duff, jun. do.	1	1	0
Robert Wishart, do.	1	1	0
Matthew Davidson, surgeon,	1	1	0
Joseph Forrester, glover,	1	1	0
Alexander Menzies, maltman,	1	1	0
Thomas Stewart, shipmaster,	1	1	0
David Grant, glover,	1	1	0
Mr John Jervey, minister,	1	1	0
Charles Thomas, maltman,	1	1	0
James Scott, do.	1	1	0
Peter Duff, sen. merchant,	1	1	0
John Clark, baker,	1	1	0
George Blakie, merchant,	1	1	0
Alexander Watson, schoolmaster,	1	1	0
Robert Nichol, do.	1	1	0
Archibald Walker, merchant,	1	1	0
Andrew Thomson, jun. do.	1	1	0
Andrew Davidson, writer,	1	1	0
Mr Alexander Troop, minister,	1	1	0
Henry Buist, dyer,	1	1	0
George M'Kay, Esq.	1	1	0
Mr Robert Byssat,	1	1	0
Mr Thomas Rattray,	1	1	0
James Spankie, in Cupar Angus,	1	1	0
Thomas Edward there,	1	1	0
George Henderson there,	1	1	0
William Henderson there,	1	1	0
Patrick Bruce there,	1	1	0
Gilbert Ramsay there,	1	1	0
David Campbell there,	1	1	0
David Blair, stampmaster there,	1	1	0
John Henderson there,	1	1	0
John Scott, mason there	1	1	0
Donald M'Euan, mason,	1	1	0
James Webster, in Cupar,	1	1	0

James

Digitized by Google

James Hay,	L. 1	1	0
David Henderson,	1	1	0
James Nairne,	1	1	0
John Bett,	1	1	0
George Anderson, at boat of Cupar,	1	1	0
John Brown, mason,	1	1	0
Alexander Robertson, at Bruntie,	1	1	0
Robert Small, in Kemphill,	1	1	0
David Grant, of Limepotts,	1	1	0
George Miller, at Rome,	1	1	0
George Ritchie in Sherriftown,	1	1	0
David Ross, in Innerbuist,	1	1	0
John Smith, in Lethendy,	1	1	0
James Honey of Blairhall,	1	1	0
Mr Alexander Duff, minister at Tibbermuir,	1	1	0
George Soutar, merchant in Blair-gowrie,	1	0	0
Mr James Willie, minister at Scone,	1	0	0

Digitized by Google

NUMBER II.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FOR

BUILDING

THE

SEMINARIES.

1804–5.

JOHN CAW, Esq. provost, for the city of Perth, - - - -	L.	1050	0 0
Lieut.-Col. Sharp, the surplus fund of the 1st Battalion of R. Perth Volunteers, -		700	0 0
Lieut. Col. Marshall, the surplus fund of the 2d Battalion of R. Perth Volunteers,		400	0 0
Thomas Hay-Marshall, Esq. the ground upon which the building is to be erected, value		500	0 0
His Grace the Duke of Athol, -		105	0 0
The Earl of Kinnoul, - -		105	0 0
The Earl of Breadalbane, - -		105	0 0
The Earl of Mansfield, - -		105	0 0
Colonel Graham of Balgowan, -		52	10 0
John Caw, Esq. Provost of Perth, -		52	10 0
David Morrison, Esq. merchant, -		105	0 0

John

Digitized by Google

John Richardson, Esq. of Pitfour, -	L. 50	0	0
John Young, Esq. of Belwood, - -	42	0	0
James Richardson, Esq. of Kinnaird, -	42	0	0
James Paton, Esq. sheriff-clerk of Perthshire,	42	0	0
John Ross, Esq. of Balgairshoe, -	25	0	0
Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre, Bart.	25	0	0
Lieut.-Col. Sharp of Kincarrochy, -	25	0	0
William Marshall, Esq. agent for the Bank of Scotland, Perth, - - - -	21	0	0
James Chalmers, Esq. of Grangemount,	21	0	0
Alexander Fechney, Esq. of Ardargie, -	21	0	0
Dr Stewart of Bonskied, - -	21	0	0
Lord Methven, - - - -	21	0	0
Alexander Muir M'Kenzie of Delvin, -	21	0	0
Lord Dunsinnan, - - -	21	0	0
Lord Rollo, - - - - -	21	0	0
James Paterson, Esq. of Carpow, -	21	0	0
Patrick Campbell, Esq. of Auchalader,	21	0	0
James Stewart Olyphant, Esq. of Rossie,	21	0	0
Colonel Moray Stirling of Abercairney,	21	0	0
Patrick Keir, Esq. of Kinmonth, - -	21	0	0
John Lee Allen, Esq. of Errol, -	21	0	0
Alexander M'Duff, Esq. of Bonhard, -	21	0	0
George Greenlaw, Esq. of Hiltown, -	21	0	0
Major Drummond of Gairdrum, - - -	21	0	0
Thomas Hunter, Esq. of Glencarse, -	21	0	0
Francis Grant, Esq. of Kilgraston, -	21	0	0
James Hay, Esq. of Seggieden, - -	21	0	0
Alexander Murray, Esq. of Ayton, -	21	0	0
James Johnstone, Esq. of Kinkardine, -	21	0	0
John Murray, Esq. of Murrayshall, -	21	0	0
Thomas Bissland, Esq. Ferguss Lee, Paisley,	21	0	0
James Wood, M. D. Perth, - - -	21	0	0
William Stewart of Spoutwells, - -	21	0	0
Peter Duff, dean of guild, Perth, -	21	0	0
Robert Millar, merchant, - -	21	0	0

Robert

Robert Rose, merchant,	L.	15	15	0
William Dickson, do.		10	10	0
William Stewart, writer,		10	10	0
John M'Ewan, mason,		10	10	0
Thomas Beatson, merchant,		10	10	0
Francis Robertson, do.		10	10	0
Laurence Robertson, do.		10	10	0
Patrick Small, Esq. Perth,		10	10	0
Robert Peddie, writer,		10	10	0
David Beatson, merchant,		10	10	0
Alexander Beatson, Esq. W. S.		10	10	0
Charles Archer, merchant,		10	10	0
Duncan Spottiswood, do.		10	10	0
James Bell, do.		10	10	0
David George Sandeman, do.		10	10	0
John Laing, Esq. of Rosemount,		10	10	0
James Laing, Esq. Dominica,		10	10	0
James Ramsay, merchant, Perth,		10	10	0
William Blair, Colen, three bolls wheat, three barley, three oats, and three pease, at the fiars price,		10	10	0
The Rev. John Dow, Methven,		10	10	0
General Campbell of Monzie,		10	10	0
Colonel Henderson of Feswell Bank,		10	10	0
Thomas Young, Esq. of Ardbenny,		10	10	0
John Young, Esq. younger of Ardbenny,		5	5	0
The Rev. John Duff, Kinfawns,		5	5	0
Ebenezer Marshall, Esq. of Hilcairney,		10	10	0
Major Munroe, Perthshire militia,		5	5	0
Captain David Stewart, 42d Regiment,		5	5	0
Colonel Robertson of Strowan,		21	0	0
Robert Owen, Esq. Glasgow,		50	0	0
Major M'Glashan, Perthshire militia,		5	5	0
James M'Farlane, M. D. Perth,		5	5	0
Joseph Young, merchant,		5	5	0
William Gray, iron-monger,		5	5	0

James

Digitized by Google

James Ritchie, Rhynd,	L. 5	5	0
Alexander Paul, merchant,	5	5	0
David Walker, cashier to the Perth Banking-Company,	5	5	0
Patrick Stewart, youngest, merchant,	5	5	0
William Ross, writer,	5	5	0
Robert Hepburn, merchant,	5	5	0
David Scotland, shipmaster,	5	5	0
Thomas Hill, bookseller,	5	5	0
Walter Miller, Customs,	5	5	0
Thomas Black, merchant,	5	5	0
James Cornfute, do.	5	5	0
Andrew Kelty, M. D.	5	5	0
Duncan Ogilvie, merchant,	5	5	0
Thomas Barland, do.	5	5	0
Donald Stewart, do.	5	5	0
John Rutherford, writer,	5	5	0
Charles Husband, do.	5	5	0
P. G. Stewart, merchant,	5	5	0
James Burt, do.	5	5	0
William Ramsay, Craigie,	5	5	0
William Bisset, druggist,	5	5	0
James Morison, stationer,	5	5	0
Robert Reid, land-surveyor,	5	5	0
James Proudfoot of Balbaughty,	5	5	0
George Condie, writer,	5	5	0
Captain John Rollo, barrack-master,	5	5	0
Patrick Miller, town-clerk,	5	5	0
John Livingstone, surgeon,	5	5	0
David Hay, merchant,	5	5	0
James Hay Robertson, do.	5	5	0
Niel Caw, do.	5	5	0
Alexander Porteous, do.	5	5	0
R. and P. Clink, do.	5	5	0
James Caw, do.	5	5	0
Thomas Gibson, writer,	5	5	0

Laurence

Digitized by Google

Laurence Oliphant, Esq. of Gask,	L. 21	0	0
David Kinloch, Esq. of Gourdie,	21	0	0
Ebenezer Oliphant, Esq. of Condie,	21	0	0
Patrick Maxton, Esq. Edinburgh,	10	10	0
David Scott, Esq. M. P.	105	0	0
Colonel Mark Wood, M. P.	50	0	0
Colonel George Wood,	50	0	0
Captain J. A. Wood, Royal Navy,	10	10	0
George Wood, Esq. London,	21	0	0
Robert Wood, M. D.	10	10	0
Thomas Wood, Esq. Bengal,	10	10	0
William Wood, Esq. London,	10	10	0
Thomas Bell, Esq. do.	21	0	0
Thomas Jameson, Esq. do.	21	0	0
J. Beveridge Duncan, Esq.	21	0	0
Captain Andrew Paton,	21	0	0
William Scott, M. D.	21	0	0
George Sandeman, do.	21	0	0
Humphry Donaldson, Esq. London,	21	0	0
Robert Steel, Esq. do.	10	10	0
Humphry Donaldson, jun. Esq.	5	5	0
John Moir, jun. Esq. do.	10	10	0
Robert Flemying, Esq. do.	10	10	0
Patrick Thomson, Esq. do.	21	0	0
Thomas Caw, Esq. do.	21	0	0
David Robertson, Esq. do.	5	5	0
J. Stewart, Esq. do.	5	5	0
J. Hope Oliphant, Esq. Rossie,	10	10	0
Kirkman Finlay, Esq. Glasgow,	10	10	0
Nicol Brown, Esq. do.	21	0	0
James Donaldson, Esq. do.	10	10	0
Samuel Caw, Esq. do.	5	5	0
James M'Pherson, Esq. Essequibo,	21	0	0
John M'Pherson, Esq. do.	10	10	0
William M'Pherson, Esq. do.	10	10	0
James Fitchie, manufacturer, Perth,	5	5	0

David

Thomas Taylor, Clockserie,	L.	5	5 0
James Roy, Perth,		5	5 0
James Buchan, jun. Kildinny,		5	5 0
William Blair, merchant,		10	10 0
The Rev. James Beatson, Dumbarney,		21	0 0
Mungo Murray, Esq. of Lintrose,		10	10 0
Archibald Campbell, Esq. of Clathick,		21	0 0
William Beveridge, Esq. W. S.		21	0 0
John Craigie, Esq. Advocate,		10	10 0
Josiah Maxton, sadler, Edinburgh,		10	10 0
John Pitcairn, Esq. do.		52	10 0
John Bonar, Esq. do.		52	10 0
Andrew Bonar, Esq. do.		52	10 0
Alexander Bonar,		52	10 0
Mess. Stewarts and Company, Glasgow,		10	10 0
James Craig, Stanley,		21	0 0
Peter Taylor, Queensferry,		5	5 0
John Wright, jun. Glasgow,		5	5 0
John Campbell, Esq. of Kinloch,		10	10 0
Thomas Scotland, Esq. W. S.		21	0 0
John Donaldson, Dron,		5	5 0
John Whyte, Mailer,		5	5 0
The Proprietors of the Perth newspaper,		5	5 0
Sir George Stewart of Grandtully, Bart.		25	0 0
John Swanston, Esq. Glasgow,		10	10 0
Hope Stewart, Esq. of Ballechin,		15	15 0
Alexander Pitcairn, Esq. Edinburgh,		20	0 0
William Turnbull, Esq. Luncarty,		10	10 0
Sir R. Menzies of Weem, Bart.		21	0 0
R. Allan and Son, Edinburgh,		5	5 0
David Dale, Esq. Glasgow,		10	10 0
R. Scott Moncrieffe, Esq. do.		5	5 0
General Robertson Lude,		21	0 0
James Buchan, Esq. W. S.		10	10 0
James Wingate, Esq. of Galray,		5	5 0
John Stewart, Esq. of Crossmount,		5	5 0

David

Digitized by Google

David Johnson, Perth,	L.	5	5 0
James Brakenridge, baker,		5	5 0
Josiah Walker, Esq. customs,		5	5 0
John Taylor, manufacturer,		5	5 0
Patrick Thomson, do.		5	5 0
Thomas Barland, do.		5	5 0
Walter Miller, jun. Perth Bank,		5	5 0
Charles Malloch, manufacturer, Perth,		1	1 0
James Ballingal, merchant,		2	2 0
George Ower, wright,		4	4 0
George Christie, writer,		1	1 0
John Maiben, sadler,		2	2 0
John Barland, Stormontfield,		5	5 0
William Paul, manufacturer,		1	1 0
David Paul, do.		2	2 0
John Stewart, wright,		5	5 0
Robert Gray, glover,		1	1 0
Alexander Menzies, Esq. Edinburgh,		10	10 0
Mr Alexander Caw,		10	0 0
Captain Robert Bissett,		10	10 0
Robert Stewart, Esq. of Alderstone,		10	10 0
David Taylor, druggist, London,		5	5 0
James Taylor, Esq.		21	0 0
Peter Playfair, Esq.		5	5 0

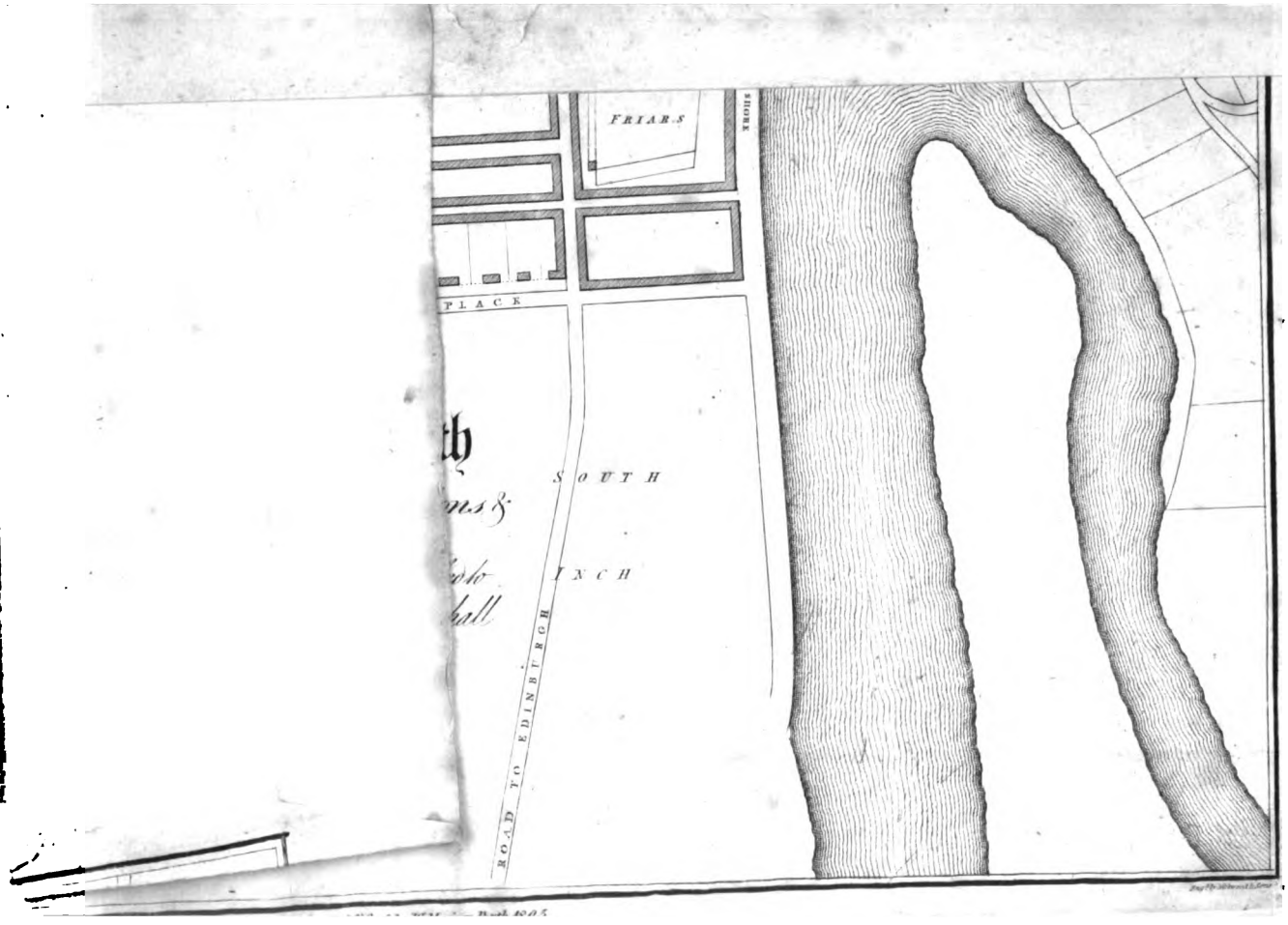
FINIS.

J. Pillans & Sons, Printers, Edinburgh.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

This book should be returned to the Library on or before the last date stamped below.

A fine of five cents a day is incurred by retaining it beyond the specified time.

Please return promptly.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google